THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 48.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXIII. NUMBER 14.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1876.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 27TH MARCH.

THE PIONEER, under the plea of noticing the last half-yearly volume of the *Transactions of the Archæological Society of Agra*, attempts a reply to our remarks on Babu Rajendralala Mitra's theory about the independent origin of Indian Art. The friends of the Babu may well congratulate him for the ability with which he has vindicated his theories. Of the two opinions so earnestly pressed by him, that regarding the existence of stone architecture in India before the advent of Alexander the Great, is now, we believe, generally admitted; even Mr. Fergusson, the greatest advocate of the Greek theory, has had to concede that the Hindus knew and did build stone walls from a very remote period of antiquity, though according to him roofing and decorations came after the advent of the Greeks. The second about the origin of sculpture has also been to a great extent conceded, and the grounds of opposition have very considerably narrowed. Our contemporary admits, in the language of Mr. Keene, "that while the Hindu architecture of the Gangetic valley and to the southward does not show that the architects borrowed ideas or forms from the Greeks, there are traces of Greek influence in works at Mathurá and in the Punjab," that is to say, there are whole tracts of the country where architecture came into being and flourished without foreign admixture, and this is exactly what the Babu has been hitherto contending for. As to the existence of traces in the Punjab, or rather beyond the Indus, in Peshwar &c., which the Hindus do not admit to be parts of India no one who knows any thing about the subject, will for a moment doubt; but the question in regard to them which has yet to be solved, is,—are the sculpcures and architectural remains there found, truly Indian; or are they the handiwork, or work produced by order, of Greeks, Bactrians, Scythians and other foreigners, who flourished there as conquerors, who had adopted the religion of the conquered? Put in this form, even our contemporary will find it hard to meet the question, and prove that the traces are of art borrowed by the Indians from foreigners. In Mathura beyond a vine scroll and two or three doubtful fragments, nothing has yet been found that can be honestly called Greek, and whatever little has been found comes from the monastery of Oorki, a Scythian monarch, and that will no more prove that the Hindus of old borrowed from the Greeks than the gingerbread Strawberry Hill gothic scrolls of St. Paul's Cathedral on the Calcutta esplanade prove that the Hindus of the present day have done the same. Our contemporary regrets that "at present there are no signs of the present masters of India founding an order of Anglo-Indian architecture." He need not be so desponding. Two thousand years hence some adventurous Oldenbuck may rescue pieces of chunam moulding from the ruins of Anglo-Indian bungalows, and the *Pioneer* of the day may appeal to them as incontestable proofs of the Hindus of the year of grace eighteen hundred and seventy-six having for the first time learnt architecture from their English conquerors.

DR. JULIUS EGGELING (late Sec. of the Royal Asiatic Society), who has succeeded Professor Aufrecht in the chair of the Sanscrit Language, Literature and Philosophy, and Comparative Philology in the University of Edinburgh, delivered his inaugural lecture on Jan. 5th. He gave a brief sketch of the past and present state of the study of Sanscrit, dwelling on the importance of that language, not only on account of the master-pieces of literature which it presents to view, but also because it gives a key to the early habits and social condition of the Aryan race. He said that it was from the Sanscrit language alone that a clear and correct knowledge could be obtained of the laws, the religion, and social habits which once prevailed, and to a great extent still prevailed, in India; and without more than a superficial idea of the past condition of the Hindus, it was scarcely likely that those who were constantly brought into contact with them, and were called upon to rule and guide them, could thoroughly understand and appreciate their feelings and modes of thinking, and could contribute as much to their moral and social improvement as might otherwise be the case.

THE JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION has the following about Dr. Sircar's Science Association: "Such a scheme certainly deserves support from all who are desirous that India should be placed on an equal footing with other countries in opportunities for the study of science. We have little fear ourselves of the result after such an inauguration. There scarcely can be failure with the hearty co-operation of Sir R. Temple and the many native gentlemen who have and are taking such a deep interest in an Association so much needed, and which will be of such inconceivable advantage to the future position of India."

THE INDIAN COURT of the Exhibition in Philadelphia is to occupy one of the most prominent positions in the main avenue of the Industrial Hall; there India will practically exemplify her great resources by an exposition of her raw and mineral productions, and a complete representation of the various industries for which she is renowned. An interesting and valuable selection of curiosities has been made, including some objects of great historical interest. Dr. Forbes-Watson will superintend the preliminary arrangements.

WE TAKE from the last number of the Journal of the National Indian Association the following Indian intelligence:

"Mr. N. Subrahmanyam, of Madras, student of the Inner Temple, was called to the Bar at the end of January, and has since left England.

At Cambridge, January 29, Mr. Raj Narain Mittra, of St. Catherine's College, who was a successful candidate in the Law Tripos, took the degree of Bachelor of Laws.

Mr. Nanda Lal Dey, of St. John's College, Cambridge, has taken the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

In the Matriculation Examination at University College, London, Mr. Kavasjee J. Badshah (Gilchrist scholar from Bombay) passed in the Honours Division, and was among the fourteen candidates who obtained the number of marks qualifying for a prize."

THE INDIAN DAILY NEWS seems to continue to receive the attention of the Bengal Government. It would appear from certain official papers which we have received from the Bengal Office that the local Government instituted an enquiry into the truth of the following statement made in the columns of the *News*:

"It seems to us that the reproach sometimes levelled against the present Government of Bengal, of not being quite up to all the higher æsthetic requirements of the day, is scarcely fair to the able statesman who is now at its head. Not only is Sir Richard Temple himself an accomplished painter, but he has lately shown himself anxious to encourage a love of fine arts in the Bengalee breast, and as English prestige in India would possibly suffer if the youth of Bengal suddenly shot too far ahead of English interlopers, European prisoners in Hazareebagh are permitted to wander about the station, painting tigers over other people's doorways, and assisting in the decoration of the local theatre and residents' houses. Liberty of this sort possibly involves some neglect of the more important objects of Jail discipline, but the world is too sad, and life is too short, for any very rigid standard of duty in such matters, and it is out of the question that fine art should be neglected."

The Superintendent of the European Penitentiary, Hazaribag, made the following report on the subject:

"In returning to you the Government letter and extract from the *Indian Daily News* received with your memorandum No. 2044, dated the 4th instant, received by me this morning, I have the honor to report that there is no truth whatever in the statement that "European prisoners in Hazareebagh are permitted to wander about the station painting tigers(figures?) over other people's door-ways."

2. A drop-scene for the theatre was painted at the Penitentiary and a regular charge was made for it, and on a washing day, when the prisoners were not so regularly employed as on others, I permitted the jailor to take it down with two good conducted prisoners, with short terms to serve, to put it up, fearing that it would be destroyed if made over to the natives. The jailor marched them down, was with them all the time they were at work, and marched them back. We also contracted to make a canvas ceiling for a room in the house of one of the residents, and when it was ready a carpenter, a very well conducted prisoner, who is close to his discharge, was sent under charge of the jailor to put it up, which took him only a few hours to do, during which time he was continuously under observation. His services were duly charged for.

3. Perhaps these two occurrences, exaggerated by his informant, led the Editor of the *Daily News* to insert the article referred to."

The Lieutenant Governor has ordered that, "it should be made a strict rule that prisoners should not be permitted to leave the jail premises *under any* circumstances."

THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS of Lucknow have issued an order that no tree of mature growth shall be cut down without the permission in writing of the Secretary or President of the Municipal Committee.

TUESDAY, 28TH MARCH.

THE TOTAL NUMBER of books and pamphlets published in Oudh during the last official year was 487; of this number 100 were original works, 30 translations, and 357 republications; amatory poetry finds most readers.

THE PIN factories of the United States make 47 million pins daily and 25 million more are imported daily; hence 72 million are lost every day; where do they go to?

THE TIMES besides its special wire to Paris and another to Berlin, and its special arrangements for the use of the wires to India, has now arranged for the use of a cable to New York three nights in a week for a certain number of hours after the day's pressure is over.

HIS GRACE the Duke of Buckingham is winning new spurs at Madras. Scarcely has the now famous notification anent kummerbunds and polished patent leather shoes, had time to get cold when, says a contemporary, the world—of Madras—is startled by another ordinance which notifies that for the future four guns fired in quick succession will be the signal that a vessel has been sighted with the Governor of Madras on board, and that ship, it is ordered, shall at once hoist the 'Governor's Jack' at the foremast head. What next and next!

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* has the following notice of the late Lady Augusta Stanley:

"One of the most intimate friends, probably I should not be wrong in saying *the* most intimate personal friend whom Her Majesty possessed, passed away on Wednesday night in the person of Lady Augusta Stanley, the wife of the Dean of Westminster. It is indeed no secret that the Queen did a little bit of "match-making" in arranging the wedding of Dean Stanley and Lady Augusta Bruce (which even took place in December 1863), and she has always felt the deepest interest in their wedded happiness. Lady Augusta Stanley was a sister of Lord Elgin, the late Governor-General of India, and she had about the Court in various capacities all her life. She nursed the Queen's mother through her last illness, and has always been on terms of the closest intimacy with every member of the Royal family. Telegrams during Lady Augusta Stanley's last illness were sent to the Queen twice daily, conveying news of her state, and it is said that the last call which the Prince of Wales paid ere he left England for India was at the Deanery at Westminster to enquire after Lady Augusta Stanley's health. I do not know the exact age of Lady Augusta Stanley, but I fancy that she was somewhere about fifty-four or fifty-five years old at the time of her death."

PROFESSOR TYNDALL has been united in the bonds of holy matrimony to the eldest daughter of Lord and Lady Cland Hamilton. The professor is said to be about fifty-six years of age, his wife only a little over thirty. Among those who were present at the wedding were Professor Huxley, Mr. Thomas Carlyle, Dr. Hooker, Sir F. Pollock, and the parents of the bride. All bridesmaids were dispensed with, the ceremony was performed in a very quiet way. Miss Hamilton (now Mrs. Tyndall) is a niece of the Duke of Abercorn, and a cousin of the present Under-Secretary of State for India. She is an intense admirer of the Professor's intellect.

LORD LYTTON'S staff, it is said, is composed as follows: Private Secretary, Lieut.-Col. O. T. Burne, C. S. I., who served in the same capacity with Lord Mayo, and is at present political secretary at the India Office; military secretary, Colonel Colley, C. B. who took part in the Ashantee campaign, and was, till he received the present appointment, Deputy Quarter-master-General at Aldershot. Aides-de-camp: Capt. the Hon. George Villiers, Grenadier Guards; Leut. Augustus Frederick Liddell, of the Royal Artillery; Lord Marcus Beresford, at present on the staff of Lord Northbrook; and Lieut. Harcourt Rose, 34th regiment, at present serving in India.

DEPUTATIONS recently waited on Mr. Cross and on the Duke of Richmond with regard to State aid to science. The Home Secretary seemed to be sympathetic.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION on Vivisection have submitted their report. The Commission recognise that under certain conditions vivisection ought to be tolerated, but that those conditions should be rigidly defined. Man has been given, and possesses, a dominion over the lower animals, and therefore there is no wrong in the bare infliction of pain upon them. If a butcher may slaughter a lamb, a Professor Schiff may harmlessly vivisect a dog or a cat. But the Commissioners suggest, to summarise their interest-

ing and voluminous report, that no person should be allowed to perform operations which cause pain to animals, without the use of anæsthetics, unless they hold a license from one of Her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State. That license is to be revocable if its terms and limitations are abused, and thus every reasonable safeguard will be provided against a brutal and superfluous cruelty towards dumb members of the animal world. Vivisection is only to be allowed for the purpose of original research, with a view to the extension of purely scientific knowledge, or to the direct benefit of human beings. and is to be prohibited, if employed, as it too often now is, not as engine of discovery, but as a mere instrument of demonstration for the benefit of curious and half-educated students.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH MARCH.

SOME of our contemporaries are lamenting the decline of horse-racing in India. One writer says:

"There is a good deal, of course in the contention that men marry more than they did before and that on this account, owing to family cares and the necessity for economy causes them to give up the turf, and that Anglo-Indian society has become more thrifty owing to the increased facilities which are now afforded for visits to the mother country where one can get twice as much enjoyment for the same money that is spent in India; and also to the increased expenses which every one residing in the country has to meet through the depreciation of the rupee.

The real causes, we believe are, as we said before, the decline of that good feeling which made race meetings formerly pleasant reunions of friends from various parts of the neighbourhood, and a certain amount of that distrust which has been created by the too often recurring exploits of sharp practitioners or the annoying quibbles of the pettifoggers of the Indian turf."

We are sorry to notice these lamentations after the cheering subscriptions obtained under gentle pressure for the Calcutta Turf to please the Prince.

A FRENCH ENGINEER, a contemporary tells us, has projected a grand canal in the south of France, to unite the Mediteranean to the Bay of Biscay. He proposes that it should be cut from Pauillac to La Nouvelle, and that it should be made of the depth of ten metres, and of sufficient width to admit vessels of the largest size, and without locks or weirs. He shows that, on the whole, the country is favourable for the construction of such a work.

SIR CHARLES DILKE called attention to the abuses of certain municipalities in England. He passed in review some seventeen or eighteen corporations. In all, five or six small tradesmen, or persons who would be small tradesmen if they were but honest, but who are now brewers, wholsale dealers, magistrates and members of the corporation, exercise criminal jurisdiction, tax their neighbours, appropriate their funds, and squander their monies, occasionally diversifying their proceedings by burning the corporation books, and levanting with the money. Among the places dealt with, were Grampound John Hampden's Boroughs. West and East Love, in Cornwall, Lostwithrel and Corfu Castle, Henley-on-Thames, and Haveringate Bowe. The motion was merely for inquiry, and after a promise by the Home Secretary, that some attention should be paid to the remarkable revelations thus made, was withdrawn by Sir Charles who had probably effected all he had contemplated, by directing the sunbeam of public opinion into these dark and dusty store closets of antique abuses.

"I UNDERSTAND," writes a London Correspondent, "that Sir George Campbell has fallen a victim to the present rinking mania, and that the late Lieutenant-Governor may now be seen skating almost every afternoon at Prince's! Mr. Lowe (who has long been a proficient in the art of managing the bycicle) has also taken to skating on wheels, and I am assured that it is a fearsome sight to see him and Sir George Campbell essaying to do the 'inner and the outer edges!' Considering too, that Mr. Lowe is so near-sighted as to be almost blind I must confess that for him to take (at the age of sixty-two) to 'rinking, seems to me to be nothing short of a tempting of Providence!"

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Shanghai Courier* in a communication dated New Change, 17th January, gives the following items of intelligence.

"The Russians are reported to have passed the boundary and have either built or are about to build a military post or settlement on the Chinese side of the Amour. That is the Russians are making, or are about to make, fresh encroachments in Manchuria as they have recently done in Western Asia. The Chinese officials have issued proclamations forbidding their people to trade or have any dealing with Russians, who they say, have come to make trouble. The Russians are, on the other hand, supposed to be determined to trade in the first instance, and if the Chinese wont do this, then a quarrel will ensue, and another slice of Manchuria will cease to be Chinese and become Russian.

China seems to be destined as the next bone of contention between the European powers in Asia.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS DIRECTORY for 1876 furnishes some interesting statistics respecting the newspapers of England. It appears that there are now published in the United Kingdom 1,642 newspapers, distributed as follows:—England, London, 320; Provinces, 956; total 1,276. Wales 57; Scotland, 152; Ireland, 138; Isles, 19. Of these there are Daily papers, England, 98; Wales 2; Scotland, 16; Ireland, 19; Isles, 1. The magazines now in course of publication, including the quarterly reviews, number 657, of which 238 are of a decidedly religious character.

THURSDAY, 30TH MARCH.

WE HAVE received the prospectus of an Asylum for Orphans and Widows to be established at Allahabad under the auspices of the Northern Indian Brahmo Sumaj with Branch Asylums at other places where efficient management can be ensured. Orphans and Widows of all castes and races so far as the funds of the Institution may permit will be admitted into the proposed Asylum under certain conditions, where they will receive necessary food, clothing and comfortable accommodation and be brought up in a respectable way. One of the conditions is that the orphans be prepared to receive such secular, moral, and useful education (including instructions in the principles of theism) as may be prescribed for them by the Directors, of the Asylum. The Asylum will depend exclusively upon subscriptions, donations or other gifts from the public. The Committee of Directors will comprise half the number who will be members of the Brahmo Sumaj. We wish the projectors every success.

A CORRESPONDENT from Rajmahal makes mention of a column standing to the north of the Singha Dallan which is 28 feet high and base of the foundation of which nobody has been able to trace. There are some inscriptions upon it both figured and lettered. And at the approach of the rains a kind of red fluid is said to run in a stream from its base. Cannot some one furnish more accurate and reliable particulars of this relic of antiquity?

READERS of Indian history will be glad to hear that Mr. Trubner, the London publisher, has found Father Catrou's history of the reign of Aurungzeb. Catrou compiled his book from the memoirs of Manouchi, a Venetian doctor in the service of Shah Jehan and Aurungzeb.

WE ARE sorry to see that we committed a mistake, and we are indebted to two correspondents for pointing it out, by confounding Col. Chesney, whose death was reported last week by Reuter, with the Principal of the Cooper's Hill College. The deceased Colonel was a relative of the latter. A competent authority in the columns of a contemporary says of him: "He was certainly the best military critic in England, almost in Europe, and as such we can ill-afford to lose him. His *Waterloo Lectures* written when he was Professor of Military Art and History at the Staff College, were so absolutely impartial as to be accepted as the best account of the strategy of the campaign, not in England alone, but in France and Prussia. As might be expected, they do not altogether chime in with the *Idees Napoleoniennes*; and the late Emperor of France, fearing their popularity among his officers, provided an account of the three days' war from his own point of view, with the same title and similar print and binding, and had it circulated among his army." A more profound compliment to the original author could hardly have been paid.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON in reply to Mr. Fawcett had stated that the Indian Legislation Bill had been recommended by the Government of India. The *Pioneer* thus contradicts this statement:

"The Bill has never been submitted to the Indian Government for its approval: still less has it been recommended by that Government. Indeed, we have reason to feel convinced, and it is very desirable that the true state of the facts in this respect should be understood at Home,—that the Government of India is deeply dissatisfied with the Bill in its present form, and would most urgently have asked the Home Government *not* to introduce it, if it had had the chance."

We hope Parliament will make an enquiry into the truth of Lord Hamilton's statement. Was it a ruse.

THE CALCUTTA CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* has the following on the passing of the Calcutta Municipal Bill:

"The Municipal Bill was passed by the local Legislature on Saturday, and now only awaits the assent of the Viceroy to attain the dignity of an Act. The only non-official members present, *viz.*, Mr. Brookes, Baboo Kristo Das Pal, and Nawab Seyed Asgur Ally, voted against the Bill. The official majority was, however, quite strong enough to carry the measure through the final stage. It now remains to be seen how the Government of India will deal with the matter. And I already hear of steps shortly to be instituted, with a view to influence Lord Northbrook's opinion on this important subject. There is little doubt the Bill, as it now stands, has been carried through Council against the private convictions of a majority of the members who compose the august assembly. It is no exaggeration to say that the main principle of the Bill granting the elective franchise to the rate-payers, is a concession which is the reverse of popular with the members of the local Council. Nor does the Bill satisfy the expectations of the public outside. Looked at from the most favourable point of view, it is a half-hearted measure, painfully indicative of the weakness and irresolution of the guiding genius who is solely responsible for the main principles which are embodied in the Bill."

Lord Northbrook distinguished the beginning of his reign by vetoing one Bengal Municipal Bill; will His Lordship distinguish the end of it by vetoing another Bengal Municipal Bill? The public are anxiously looking forward to His Lordship for decisive action.

WE ARE surprised that such a well-informed writer as the above should have committed the mistake which underlies this paragraph. Adverting to the proceedings of the Bengal Council regarding the referring of the controlling sections of the Calcutta Municipal Bill to the Select Committee he says:

"Consternation sat on the face of every official member on that memorable Saturday morning which gradually deepened into despair as the President, carried away by the enthusiasm born of his sudden conversion, boldly declared, he for his part saw no objection to the thorough revision of the whole measure so long as the vital principle of the Bill was left intact. At this moment the non-official members had a good opportunity afforded them to insist upon the question of the appointment of the Chairman being made one of the points upon which Council would be at liberty to address the special committee and thus open up this much vexed question, and submit its merits to the test of a rigid examination. Baboo Kristo Das Pal generally ready enough to take advantage of a temporary discomfiture of his political adversaries, remained unaccountably silent, while Mr. Brookes, with far less excuse for doing so sat glued to his seat with a persistency which must always be a subject for keen regret."

The native member referred to did press that all the questions embraced in the memorials, which included the appointment of the Chairman and the separation of the offices of Chairman and Commissioner of Police, should be referred to the Select Committee, but he was overruled by the President and the official majority. It was, however, understood that it would be open to any member to raise any question at a subsequent sitting of the Council, and it was on the strength of this understanding the native member brought forward Resolutions for the appointment of the Chairman by the Commissioners, and the separation of the offices of Chairman and Commissioner of Police. As usual he was defeated.

FRIDAY, 31ST MARCH.

IT IS STATED that the Rajah of Bustar having applied to the British authorities at Vizagapatam for assistance, saying that he is besieged in his palace by his own ryots, who threaten to murder him—two companies of the 2nd M. N. I. have started from Vizagapatam for "the seat of war," and Mr. Goderich, the Agent of the Governor, has accompanied the force to see what the business is.

WHILE the Chinese are actively organizing a trading company to operate in England, a body of Japanese have arrived in Melbourne with the intention of establishing a firm there for the purpose of promoting the exchange of Japanese commodities for Victorian wool, &c.

MR. GORDON, C. S. I., the Judicial Commissioner of Mysore, comes out to India in the *Orontes* with Lord Lytton. Mr. Prinsep returns to Hooghly.

MR. NORWOOD has introduced in the House of Commons a Bill rendering Barristers liable to damages for neglect of duty. In the first place it provides that barristers are to be allowed to sue for their fees. Then they may be sued in return for neglect of duty. Some such measure is highly needed in the interest of the public.

THE HON'BLE MR. GIBBS unveiled the statue of Sir Cowasjee Jehangier Readymoney voted by the Bombay public. He made the following graceful remarks on the occasion:

"It gives me great pleasure to accede to the kind wish of my old friend, Sir. Cowasjee Jehangier Readymoney, to unveil the statue, which has been erected by his friends, native and European, to mark their high appreciation of his character as a philanthropist and as a citizen. As you observed, Sir, Sir Cowasjee Jehangier's charities are known far beyond the limits of the Bombay Presidency. They have been extended to all creeds and all castes, European and Asiatic The starving cultivator of India and of Persia; the distressed workmen of England! the sick and the afflicted of all nations, the wounded and the prisoners in the Franco-German war, have all received the benefits of his Catholic charity. (Applause.) Education and science have received from him large grants and there is hardly a class which has not received benefits—often unsolicited—from his liberal hand.

Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, I am glad that on the present occasion there is such a numerous assembly present, because though by dispensation of Providence, he is unable to attend here himself or even to take part in the ordinary work of this city, Sir Cowasjee will find that he is not forgotten, and from his bed of sickness and of pain he will learn that his statue has been unveiled in the presence of a large number and a distinguished portion of the community, native and European, of this great city. (Applause).

SOME interesting tables have been issued from the Health Office in England, showing that in 22 years of war, there were 19,796 killed, and 79,709 wounded, in the British Army, giving an annual average of 899 killed, and 3,623 wounded. In England and Wales, in 1848-49 there were no fewer than 72,108 persons killed by cholera and diarrhœa; and it was estimated that out of this last number, 34,397 were able-bodied men capable of earning their own living.

SATURDAY, 1ST APRIL.

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes to us from Bancurah under date the 28th instant:—

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"The state of the Town is most harrowing; cholera is raging fearfully here; upwards of 100 deaths have taken place in the short space of a fortnight in this small Town like our's. There was a public meeting held of the principal inhabitants and residents presided over by Mr. Tweedie our good Judge, the Magistrate being absent from head-quarters. The meeting had a very good effect: several excellent measures were proposed which the Magistrate is carrying out. Fumigation is continued. Sanitary improvements are being attended to: and Mr. Larminie seems to be very anxious and zealous. The Magistrate's office has been closed, and our kind hearted Judge who is deeply interested in the welfare of the people closed his Court for eight days, but in the vastness of their wisdom the High Court have disapproved of the Judge's proceeding and the Courts are open as usual. So the unfortunate people who have business in the Court, must continue in a place the air of which has been poisoned, we have got an Assistant Surgeon and an additional Native Doctor; I think there should be a general stoppage of all work, and the Courts and offices ought to be closed for a month. There are 10 or 12 cases every day and deaths also."

AGAIN on the 30th idem:—

"In connection with what I have written about cholera, I beg most prominently to bring to your notice the valuable services rendered by Hospital Assistant Abdool Jaleel Khan. He is striving very hard, attending on 50 cholera patients daily. The epidemic is not yet on the decrease. I cannot describe to you the panic it has caused. We get no fuels to burn the corpses. Many shops have been closed. I hope to write to you again on the subject. Both Mr. Tweedie and the Magistrate are doing what they can."

THE HEALTH-RETURN of Calcutta for the week ending the 25th March gives the total number of deaths at 275. The rate of mortality from cholera has not abated. The total number of deaths from cholera during the week was 79.

OUR ASSAM CORRESPONDENT writes as follows:

"It is generally believed in the province that a representation is likely to be submitted to the Government of India protesting against the invidious distinctions so often made in the bestowal of patronage in the Assam Commission. The appointment of Captain H. J. Peet, to officiate for the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner in the General Department in preference to a Civilian and the promotion of Mr. P. T. Carnegy from the rank of an Assistant Commissioner, Second Grade to a Deputy Commissionership in supercession of several senior officers of great merit, are perhaps the two of the instances to be cited by the petitioners. It is indeed very strange to see the Government of India render an explanation of the charges brought forward by Mr. Robert Lowe and commit fresh jobs in the one and the same *Gazette*.

No definite rules appear to exist in the selection of Honorary Magistrates in Assam. Almost without exception the Tea planters and their "European Assistants" and Mouzadars are appointed and the system consequently fails to draw the confidence of the people. There are however a good batch of educated and experienced men at every station of the province who may be found to be willing and able to administer criminal justice to the relief of the stipendiary Magistrates. For instance Babu Shambhu Chandra Lahiri of Gouripore, Mr H. Driver of Dhubri, Babu Jogendro Chandra Chatterjee of Lakhipore, Babus Durga Das Das and Ram Durlab Mazumdar of Goalpara may very creditably serve the Government and the public if vested with the powers of Honorary Magistrates.

You will be surprised to learn that native employes of the Government Telegraph Department are allowed only two-thirds—and not the full pay and allowances granted to the Europeans and the Eurasians employed in the same posts. Can you explain, Sir, why this invidious distinction?"

IT APPEARS, says the *Friend of India*, that the Lancashire cotton manufacturers have to dread rivalry from other quarters than Bombay. Notwithstanding the great disadvantages under which they labour it is stated that American cotton goods are contending against those of Manchester in China. We extract the following from a review of the United States cotton industry of last year in the *Financial and Commercial Chronicle*:

"Even now (where quality is a consideration) in coarse or even medium goods we can hold the market. Thus, China is taking a fair quantity of our drills and heavy sheetings at prices which give the factories that make them a moderate profit. These goods are made from American cotton at the rate of 85 lb. of cloth to 100 lb. of cotton. Coarser fabric of the same character are made in England from Indian cotton and stuffed with starch and China clay or *terra alba*, so that the out-turn of cloth is 110 to 130 lb. of cloth to 100 lb. of cotton. One manufacturer assures us that he has samples of which 33½ per cent. of the weight washes out in the first washing."

THE COMMERCIAL CRISIS in Prussia appears by no means to have come to a close. Not long ago a private deputation of large employers of labour waited on the Minister of Commerce to represent the alarming condition of the artisan class of the capital. Three of the chief manufactories, which averaged in their employment not long since 2,000 hands each, can barely now find work for a third as many; and it is stated that in the city there are at present no fewer than 23,000 artisans or skilled labourers wholly without anything to do, and every prospect of the number of those turned adrift for want of work is increasing.

THE ENGINEERS have advertised a meeting to be held in Agra early next month for the purpose of discussing the present stagnation of promotion in the department, and to adopt some appropriate method of bringing the matter prominently to the notice of the Government of India. The state of things of which the engineers complain seems to have come on by degrees, but the final result is that there are at present no retirements in the upper ranks, while there is a large and continuous flow of recruits to the lower grades. The tax-payers are to be bled again, we fear.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, 28th March.—Lord Shaftesbury has announced his intention of moving an address to Her Majesty the Queen, praying that she may assume a title more in accordance than that of Empress with the history of the British Nation, and the loyalty and feelings of her subjects.

29th.—In the House of Commons last night Mr. Anderson questioned the Prime Minister concerning precedents for the Queen's absence abroad during the Session of Parliament; Mr. Disraeli cited the year 1872 as a precedent, and explained that the present reasons for Her Majesty's absence were strictly of a domestic nature.

Shanghai, 25th March.—The German Minister has officially notified that Germany renounces its treaty with China. The Tsungli Yamen (Foreign) Office has issued instructions to the authorities to allow the construction of the Woosung Railway to proceed unmolested.

Suez 27th March.—After an interview with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Lord Lytton embarked on board the *Orontes* to-day.

St. Petersburg, 29th March.—There is a rumour of the temporary retirement of the Czar in consequence of illness, and that the regency will be under the Czarewitch.

Baden, 29th March.—Her Majesty Queen Victoria, accompanied by Lord Derby as Minister in attendance, arrived here to-day.

WE UNDERSTAND that three young Bengalis leave for England on the 10th instant, *viz.*, Babu Upendra Chundra Das, late Director of the National Theatre Company, to study for the bar, Babu Mohinimohun Bose, brother of Babu Anandamohun Bose, and Babu Hemchunder Bannerjea of Bagbazar, to study medicine.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications and periodicals: 1. Report on the Food-grain supply and Statistical Review of the Relief operations in the distressed districts of Bengal and Behar during the Famine of 1873-74. By A. P. MacDonnell B. C. S. 2. The Collected Works of Sir William Jones republished by Jogendranath Ghose Vol. II Nos. II. to 16. 3 Gyanankur and Protibimbo. A Bengali Monthly Journal of Literature and Review. Vol. IV. No. 2. Pouse 1282.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1876.

LORD LYTTON'S FIRST UTTERANCES.

LORD LYTTON'S first utterances are characteristic. They smack more of the literary man than of the statesman. His Lordship compared Indian Finance with the cat's skin. He said: "I heard a friend, to whom I was speaking a few days ago, liken the Indian Government to Gulliver tied down by the Lilliputians. It is apparently a great and despotic power, but its exercise of that power is contracted in all directions. The proverb reminds us that "Don Fernando cannot do more than a man can do," and that "a cat has only got its skin." I am afraid that at present the Indian revenue is a very lean cat, and a very shy cat, and a cat whose skin won't bear very much stretching." Again: "The natural growth of the Indian revenue, although promising, is certainly very slow, while every great department of the Indian Government is continually putting to it the old highway-man's "Your money or your life!" Further: "One of the great difficulties of the Indian Government arose from the fact that the departments were always, like the daughter of the horse-leech, crying "Give, give," but an inducement to resist temptations to expenditure was found in the dire and terrible necessity of the situation, with which no Government could conscientiously trifle, for they were living on the edge of a knife financially, and had no provision for a day of need, although such a day must always be regarded as at hand." Thus His Lordship's reply to the Manchester address, to which we refer, is full of tropes and figures of speech. It is, however, interesting to know our new Viceroy's opinion on the dull figures of finance. The first question put to His Lordship by the Deputation was the repeal of the cotton duties. His Lordship said that, "on this question the policy of Her Majesty's Government has been most distinctly, repeatedly, emphatically, and honestly declared by the Secretary of State for India." He went on and gave a proof of his diplomatic training by putting a pleasant face upon the somewhat unpleasant situation which Lord Salisbury has created between the India Office and the Government of India. His Lordship said:

"I am sure we must all feel perfect faith in the sincerity and sympathy of those declarations, which have recorded what I may fairly call the fearless recognition on the part of Lord Salisbury of the impossibility practically of regarding as a permanent and unalterable source of Indian revenue those duties which, though levied ostensibly for revenue purposes, are undoubtedly in their effect as regards a branch of native manufayture—which, I confess, appears to me to be already favoured by natural advantages—protective, and I have no doubt prohibitive, as regards the same production of English manufactures. I am glad Sir L Bazeley alluded to the deputation which waited on Lord Salisbury the other day, because, if I rightly understand the policy of Her Majesty's Government on that subject, I must say I do not think it deserves to be called dictatorial. I do not see that there is anything dictatorial in the English Government saying to the Indian Government, or in the Secretary of State saying to the Viceroy, "We are joint guardians of a common interest, and we are of opinion that Indian interests must suffer in the long run if they are systematically regarded and treated not merely as apart from, but as antagonistic to, English interests; and therefore we ask you to consider with us the possibility of reducing, at the earliest possible opportunity, these cotton duties, and of reducing them in such a way as to provide if possible for their gradual but ultimate extinction. But of course in saying this, we do not suggest, much less dictate to you, the Government of India, when that opportunity shall be, or what is the best and most convenient way of taking this step. These are questions which we leave to your discretion, fully recognising the difficulties of your situation and the paramount and primary obligation of every Indian Government to make the two ends meet, and avoid deficit, debt, and fresh taxation." I must say I do not think that is an unreasonable request for the English Government to address to the Indian Government. So far as I am personally concerned, I most frankly accept that point of departure for any future revision of the Indian tariff."

We are afraid Lord Lytton has imparted a golden hue to the apple of discord between Lord Salisbury and Lord Northbrook, which will not bear the test of the crucible. The question at issue is not that where the interests of England and India are identical they should be bound up together, but that whether India should be sacrificed to a small clique of English manufactures. Lord Salisbury seems to prefer the latter, whereas Lord Northbrook as an honest and conscientious ruler holds that India ought to be governed for the benefit of India. There is perhaps not a more zealous advocate of free trade than the representative of the great Barings, but in revising the late Tariff he saw that while the import duty on other goods was seven and a half per cent. that on cotton goods was five per cent., and as a free trader he could not conscientiously further reduce the cotton duty without doing injustice to the importers of other goods. And so he has equalised the duty on all classes of goods imported into India. As for the cotton duty we are sorry to observe that Lord Lytton told Manchester that it was not only "protective" but "prohibitive." We submit it could not be "protective" inasmuch as the fabrics manufactured in India are not those which Manchester imports—they are coarse fabrics, and Manchester does not seem to complain of their growth in India. As for the finer fabrics Manchester continues to import them without decrease, and that fact is a proof positive that the duty is not "protective." It cannot be "prohibitive" in the face of the increasing import of Manchester goods. Lord Lytton is reported to be a great *diplomat*, and we are therefore not a little surprised that he should have committed himself to such an opinion without enquiry. His Lordship is coming to a new country to occupy a novel position, and he is perhaps not aware that every word that falls from the Viceroy of India is weighed and criticised through the length and breadth of the Indian continent. When he tells the Manchester men that the cotton duty is protective and prohibitive, though such an opinion is opposed to fact, His Lordship unnecessarily creates an uneasiness and alarm in the Indian mind, which we cannot but regret.

The people of India are painfully aware that they are the weaker vessel, that when the earthen pot and the brass pot come into collision the former must break, and knowing this they cannot but feel disappointed and grieved that he who is by law their protector should at the outset of his career commit himself to a policy, which means the licensing of the strong to prey over the weak, the rich over the poor. The cry of Manchester against the cotton industry of India

is not new; the Cottonopolis of England ha succeeded in destroying the indegenous manufactures of India, and pauperised thousands and hundreds of thousands of people, who hitherto used to make their living by spinning cotton. Now that a few enterprising persons aided by European science skill and energy have undertaken to manufacture cotton goods in European style, Manchester's jealousy seems to know no bounds, and it is putting forth its vast Parliamentary influence to bring about a consummation it so devoutly wishes for. Does Manchester under such circumstances deserve the sympathy and support of the responsible ruler of India, whose first duty it is to protect the poor and dumb millions entrusted to his care? Lord Salisbury has sadly betrayed his solemn and sacred trust by coquetting with Manchester, and Lord Lytton seems to have fallen into its snares. There is, however, some hope. Lord Lytton seems to be alive to the gravity of the financial situation of India. He says, "it must pay or stop." "That is the eternal fact of its position, and that is the problem—how it is to pay. I am afraid there are many considerations which will make the solution of that problem more and more difficult. India, as Mr. Chetham truly said, in spite of its great territories, is a poor country, a country which is poor because the people are poor. About a third of the whole Indian revenue is now spent in England, and I fear that is a proportion which is increasing rather than otherwise. There is another fact. The value of the merchandise exported from India greatly exceeds the Indian imports, and the quantity of treasure annually imported into India during the last five years has been steadily declining. Of course this affects the value of silver injuriously, and the price of silver has been so much depreciated by various recent circumstances, that at the present moment the Indian Government loses about 3*d.* on every rupee in the very heavy remittances it makes to England. And these remittances are getting heavier and heavier." That is, said his Lordship, one difficulty. His Lordship continued: "Then the famine has bequeathed to the debt which India pays in England an addition of about £5,000,000; and in consequence of the Mutiny, the whole charges on behalf of military expenses for re-organisation of the European army in India appear to me, in spite of every effort of restraint, to have a tendency to increase rather than to diminish. I do not think that is a very agreeable situation. I do not think one must live too much in a fool's paradise about surpluses which are, I fear, more or less book-keeping surpluses. The Indian Government must, above everything else, pay its way and make both ends meet." All these confessions, we repeat, are full of hope. They show that Lord Lytton will not act in haste. Perhaps he meant to be diplomatic when he tried to keep Manchester in good humour by condemning the Cotton duty on principle, but he sees the practical difficulties in his way and therefore asks the "indulgence" of Manchester. When he comes to this country and goes into the whole question he will find the difficulties in a still more aggravated form. He will find that the Indian revenue is not quite elastic, while the Indian expenditure is not so susceptible of retrenchment as to admit of the repeal of the Cotton duty without recourse to additional taxation. And here he will realize the gravity of his situation. We do not for a moment under-rate the responsibility of the Secretary of State, but his connection with India is more accidental and temporary than that of the Viceroy. The Secretary of State goes out with his party, but the Viceroy remains in office for the legal term, if not longer, unless he chooses to retire earlier. The Secretary of State has no local knowledge and decides only upon record, whereas the Viceroy is on the spot and is personally responsible for every thing that goes on in this country. If the financial administration of the country breaks down, the Viceroy will be held primarily responsible by Parliament. The Secretary of State looks to the interests of his own party, whereas the Viceroy looks to the interests of the millions committed to his care. When Lord Lytton assumes the reins of Government he will doubtless realize the magnitude of his responsibility, and then he will be in a position to know what a grave blunder he has committed by paltering with Manchester. The soft words which he uttered before the Manchester deputation will then have a ten-fold meaning in relation to his onerous duties in this country. He will then see that he cannot be true to himself or his Sovereign if he proves a partizan of Manchester and throws the people of India overboard. The history of Indian administration shows that however pliant the Governor General might be in the presence of the Indian Minister before coming out to India, he could not but assert his independence and diguity, the moment he was brought face to face with the Queen's subjects in the East. The Indian sun vivifies his sympathy and warms up his blood, and the bland and smooth politician at the outset is not unfrequently seen to develope himself into a determined statesman afterwards. It is this lesson of British Indian history from which we derive both faith and hope. We feel confident that Lord Lytton will not contradict that great lesson of history. If seeing is believing, when His Lordship will see India with his own eyes, he will not then believe that the cotton duty is either protective or prohibitive or that it should go first before other heavy burdens upon the people are lightened.

THE BUDGET.

SIR WILLIAM MUIR'S Budget statement for 1876-77 is a fitting *finale* of the era of enlightened and successful financial statesmanship inaugurated by Lord Northbrook. It shews that during the four years of his rule our resources have been husbanded with care, judgment, and economy, that notwithstanding considerable reduction of taxation, which has given a substantial relief to the people, the equilibrium between income and expenditure is firm, that though a large extraordinary expenditure of six millions and a half was incurred to meet the famine, not a pice of additional taxation has been raised. The Budget as presented in 1874, gave the estimated revenue at £48,934,000. At the close of the year the Regular estimate gave ground for expecting £50,070,000. The sum actually realized was £50,570,177 that is to say, it was better than the Regular estimate by 500,177. The ordinary expenditure was taken in the Budget at £47,792,000. In the Regular estimate it was raised to £48,181,000. The actual charge stands at £48,013,187, or less than the Regular estimate by £167,813. Thus, taking the whole account, the actual figures are better than the Regular estimate formed at the close of last year, by £667,990. It follows that the surplus then anticipated of £1,889,000 turned out actually to be a surplus of £2,556,990. This large and gratifying surplus is irrespective of famine expenditure in Bengal. The famine charges of the year 1874-75 were £2,237,860; and if we include them in the account, the surplus is reduced from £2,556,990 to £319,130. The operations of 1875-76 were equally satisfactory. The Budget and Regular estimates of ordinary revenue and expenditure shew the following results:—The income was estimated at £49,820,000. It is expected to be £50,991,000, that is, it will probably be better than the estimate by £1,171 000. The charges were estimated at £49.314,000. They will probably amount to £49,088,000, that is, they will be less than the estimate by £226,000. The surplus was estimated at £506,000; it is expected to be £1,903,000. But these figures, as before, are irrespective of famine charges. Including them, the surplus falls from £1,903,000 to £1,247,000. What could be a better indication of the soundness of our financial system than these cheering facts? If the famine had not occurred, the Government could have given much greater relief to the people, and also continued works of public utility with much greater activity and vigour. The estimate of famine expenditure given in the Budget for 1874-75 was 6½ millions. In the Budget for last year it was hoped that the charge would have been somewhat less; this expectation has not been realized, but says Sir William Muir it is creditable to Sir Richard Temple that the estimates framed at first have proved to be so accurate.

The Budget estimate for the current year is cautious, moderate, and satisfactory. It shews every branch of revenue in a sound and prosperous condition. The opium revenue has been very fairly taken at six millions net. The following statement shews the opium receipts for the last eight years:

1868-69	...	... 6,731,000	1874-57	...	... 6,215,000
1869-70	...	... 6,131,000	1875-76 (Regular		
1870-71	...	... 6,032,000	estimate)...		6,233,000
1871-72	...	... 7,657,000			
1872-73	...	... 6,871,000	Average		...£6,524,000
1873-74	...	... 6,324,000			

Thus the average net revenue from opium during the past eight years has been £6,524,000, and it has never in any one year fallen as low as six millions; consequently, Sir William Muir is quite justified in taking the estimate for the coming year at six millions net. Land revenue is steady. The excise revenue is rising rapidly. The income of 1875-76 shews a net increase of £117,000, and Government looks for a further advance in the current year of £35,000. This increase, if realized, will be obtained, not from increased consumption, but, we are told, from a more effective administration of the department, and from the increase of the duty on spirits (from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 per gallon), which, if illicit dealings be suppressed, should tend materially towards the lessening of consumption.

The Customs revenue last year was most prosperous, notwithstanding the loss of revenue by the revision of the Tariff. The rebound of trade, doubtless owing to the relief afforded by the Tariff Act, has enabled the Government to reduce the estimated loss of revenue from that measure from £308,000, to £85,000. The salt revenue seems to be in a highly prosperous condition. The sum realized in all India for salt in 1874-75 was £6,227,300; in 1875-76 the Government expects £6,286,000. For 1876-77 Sir William Muir takes the estimate at £6,300,00. The stamp revenue seems to be exceedingly elastic. There is a steady growth of about £25,000 per annum. The revenue of 1874-75 was £2,758,000—Government expects £2,815,000 in 1875-76; and it has taken £2,837,000 for next year. The State Railways shew a rapidly growing revenue. In 1874-75 the gross income was £130,936; in 1875-76 we expect £277,000; and in the coming year the receipts are estimated at £415,000, being an advance of £138,000. Putting the charges at £297,000, the Government expects from this source a net return of no less than £118,000. Sir William Muir justly remarks, as most of the improvement is the outcome of "a progressive advance in the leading branches of the revenue, it may be safely concluded that the sources of Imperial income are in a sound condition; and, indeed, that they never gave better promise of prosperity." In the items of expenditure there is a large increase in the army estimate for 1875-76 of £296,000, and in the Regular estimate of no less than £654,000. It occurs almost entirely on account of Home charges for European troops and supplies for the same. But the most disturbing element in the Budget is the loss by Exchange. On this subject Sir William Muir makes the following remarks;

"Let us now consider what the surplus would have been taking the "Loss by exchange" at no greater amount than the estimates of former years. If we had had the same charge under this head as in 1874-75 (*viz.*, a remittance of £10,841,614 at an exchange of 1s.10-22*d.* per rupee), our present Budget would have shewn a surplus of £1,578,122; and if we could even have taken the same charge as in the current year, when £1,390,000 were estimated for "Loss by exchange." (at the rate of 1s. 9 87*d.* per rupee), we should still have had a surplus of £1,086,000. Nothing can more fully establish the sound and satisfactory condition of the finances, apart from the remittances to England, than do these figures.

"The sudden depreciation of silver, and the consequent enhancement charge to the Government of India in laying down yearly the sum required in England of about fifteen millions sterling, without doubt cast a grave shadow on the future. In truth, it may be said that the danger, from whatever point of view considered, is the gravest which has yet threatened the finances of India. War, famine, and drought have often inflicted losses on the Exchequer far greater than the charge which threatens us in the present year. But such calamities pass away; the loss is known and limited; and when it has been provided for, the finances again stand on sure and stable ground. This is not the case with the present cause of anxiety. Its immediate effects are serious enough, as has been already shewn. But that which adds significance to it is that the end cannot be seen; the future is involved in uncertainty. It may be that in the course of time the difficulty will be lessened or removed; it may be that the depreciation will continue, and involve the Government of India in embarrassments more serious even than those it now contemplates. It would at the present moment be unwise to speculate on either of these alternatives.

Accepting, then, the situation as grave and anxious, and the future as uncertain, the Government of India feels bound to review its position in respect of the considerable expenditure hitherto made year by year on Reproductive works from

funds raised,as found necessary,by public loan. With a sudden loss in the year's estimate of a million sterling. and with no assurance that the loss may not, for a time at least, assume still large dimensions, the Government has felt that it is not now justified in adding to our future obligations by incurring any voidable debt, even for the construction of works admitted to be beneficial to the country, and in themselves remunerative. The Government of India would therefore if it had been practicable, have altogether refrained, under the present aspect of affairs, from borrowing money for this purpose. But such a course could not have been taken in the present year without great loss. The public works under construction are well in hand for gradual completion and eventual reduction of expenditure. But it will be evident that a sudden and extensive check would be both highly wasteful and on its merits inexpedient. Material has been provided; and it would be a spendthrift policy leaving it unused, if not even leaving it to deteriorate. Establishments have been entertained on a large scale for the rapid completion of the works; and these establishments cannot now be thrown adrift, or even at once materially diminished, without an expenditure in compensation that would swallow up the saving. It is also of much importance at the earliest possible period to complete the projects which are in course of construction, in order that the capital already expended on them may speedily bring in a return of revenue. This consideration applies both to canals and railways, but especially to the latter. It has been shewn in a former part of this Statement how productive the State Railways are every year becoming? It would be a mistaken policy, therefore, not to press to completion those which are now in hand But the Government of India, though thus unable immediately to stop the expenditure from borrowed funds, are resolved at once to contract the sphere of operations so far as it can be done with a due advertence to the considerations just advanced. In the programme of work for the coming year, an expenditure was contemplated of four millions sterling. The estimate has been reduced (mainly by retrenchments from the Irrigation Budget) to £3,759,000. And so long as the present adverse prospects continue, this class of expenditure will be gradually diminished, so as in the end, if need be, entirely to obviate borrowing for the purpose. Speaking broadly, the works in hand, both for Irrigation and State Railways, are estimated at a further cost of fourteen millions, or deducting the sum to be spent in 1876-77, ten millions and a quarter. This is the limit of our present liability.

This is the key-note of the Budget for 1876-77. We congratulate Lord Northbrook on the splendid success of his financial administration of India. He leaves the country with an exchequer buoyant and prosperous. He has not starved measures of progress, but at the same time he has not only not added to taxation, but has considerably reduced it. He has met the extraordinary expenditure of 6½ millions on account of the famine, and loss by exchange of more than a million and public works expenditure of about sixteen millions during four years, making a total of about 23 millions, without raising by loans not more than twelve millions. Could there be a greater triumph of financial administration than this? We only hope that this prosperity will continue.

THE SAME LAW FOR THE GOVERNMENT AS FOR THE SUBJECT.

THIS is the important truth, which Sir Richard Garth inculcated in his judgment in the reference to the High Court in the Patna Murder case. The people cannot feel too grateful to the Chief Justice for thus boldly enunciating the first principle of justice in this country. The grounds on which the Assistant Magistrate recommended the transfer of this case from Patna were as follows:

The accused are four of them (the fifth is a servant of one of them), men of wealth and standing in the city. They are connected, I believe, with many of the Mahomedan gentlemen residents of Patna, whose influence is great amongst all ranks of natives here. The combined influence of the accused, their friends and relatives, seems to have so baffled all investigations into the commission of this brutal murder, that not only were these investigations once altogether dropped as helpless by your *locum tenens* last year, but since you have returned to the district, you yourself, I believe, have met with obstructions and hindrances of every short, set up by the connections and friends of the accused, in your endeavours to bring the offence home to, the propetrators. Beyond this, it is a notorious fact spoken of openly by all classes of people, that the juries of this district have the reputation of being (in plain words) utterly corrupt.

As the case is now out of my hands, I can without impropriety say that there can be no moral doubt as to the guilt of the accused, and that there can be equally little doubt that, if tried at the Sessions Court here, they will be acquitted on ground quite other than the value and weight of the evidence against them.

The Magistrate's report was to the following effect:

Copy forwarded to the Registrar of the High Court, with the intimation that I quite agree with the Assistant Magistrate in all that he has said and with the request that his letter, together with this memo, may be laid before the Hon'ble Judges with the view of having the trial of the case transferred to some other district.

The murder which forms the subject of the case in question was committed in the month of June last, during my absence on furlough in England. On my taking over charge on the 19th October I first heard of the case, and at the same time learned that virtually all inquiry into it had been stopped; the obtaining any evidence having been given up as hopeless, owing to the influential position held by the supposed murderer and his associates in the city of Patna.

The murder having been committed in the open day, and in the middle of a large city, I thought it a disgrace to our rule to let it go unpunished, and therefore determined not to leave a stone unturned in my endeavours to obtain evidence; and I have, I am glad to say, at last succeeded in doing so, notwithstanding all the opposition which has been put in my way, by the influential Mahomedan families in the city, some of whose feelings carried them so far as to allow of their sending me an anonymous letter, informing that if I persevered in my inquiry, and did not leave well alone, I should be treated as Chief Justice Norman and Lord Mayo were treated.

That the case is a good one I have not a doubt, but I am equally certain that if it went before a Patna jury, with the present state of feeling in the city, we should not have the slightest chance of a verdict in our favor, and I should therefore respectfully request the Hon'ble Judges to exercise the powers conferred on them, and order the removal of the case to some other district—Arrah being on the line of rail and neighbouring district; the case being transferred there would cause but little inconvenience to the witnesses on either side; and if the Judge should consider it necessary, there would be little difficulty in his and the assessors visiting the scene of occurrence of murder.

I have to request that this may be laid before the Hon'ble Judges with the least possible delay.

This memo was signed by the Assistant Magistrate for the Magistrate, so the whole proceeding might be considered to have been that of the former only. It is surprising that such an experienced Judge as Mr. Justice Jackson should have ordered the transfer of the case without giving any notice to the accused, the more so as he had before in a similar case joined his colleagues in ruling that no transfer of a case from one court to another should be made without a formal hearing. The Chief Justice did not think it necessary to hear all the arguments of counsel for the accused, but delivered the following judgment:

I am happy to say that since last evening some papers have been discovered which will render any further discussion of this rule unnecessary

It appears that in 1869, in a case which in its circumstances very closely resembled the present, it was decided by no less than nine Judges of this Court that the proper course was to apply to the Court sitting in its Judicial capacity upon affidavits in the usual way; and I am extremely glad to find that no less distinguished a Judge than Mr. Justice Louis Jackson was one of the Judges who took part in that decision. An application was made in that case by MR. Herschel, the Officiating Sessions Judge of Dacca, to the Registrar of this Court, suggesting that an order should be obtained for the transfer of the proceedings to the High Court for trial.

I will read his letter:—

[The learned Chief Justice here read the letter referred to, which asked that the trial of certain wealthy Armenian gentlemen, for misappropriating certain sums of money, take place at Calcutta instead of Dacca, as in his opinion such a jury as he could obtain at Dacca would not be sufficiently educated to understand the proceeding at the trial, which would be in English.]

Upon this letter being received by the Registrar, it appears to have been laid before the Chief Justice (Sir Barnes Peacock), who recorded upon it the following minute.

"It appears to me that the Court ought not to interfere upon the application of the Sessions Judge made by letter."

"If Government (or the prosecutor of the case is not prosecuted by Government), or any of the accused, think fit to apply to the Court by motion supported by affidavit or affirmation, the Court will decide what ought to be done,

June 16, 1869. (Sd.) B. PEACOCK."

This view of the learned Chief Justice was concurred in by the Judges of the Court as under:—

"I agree with the Chief Justice."	J. P. Norman.	
"and I"	C. Hobhouse.	
	G. Loch.	16-6-69.
	H. V. Bayley	16-6-69.
"I agree"	D. N. Mitter	
"Seen"	W. Markby.	16-6-69.
	E. Jackson.	

And further it was agreed to, as I have already mentioned, by my learned colleague, Mr. Justice Louis Jackson,

This decision having been arrived at in 1869 it appears to us to set the matter at rest; and I think that Mr. Macrae, on the part of Government, will feel that he cannot, with propriety, contest the point further

Mr. Macrae assented,

RICHARD GARTH.

Mr. Justice Jackson has recorded the following note upon the above:

Jackson J.—I wish to add a few words by way of explanation of what seems to be an inconsistency on my part.

My acquiescence in the course taken on that occasion was in this degree marked, that while the other Judges had merely attached their initials in token of their concurrence, I wrote a separate note, and that note is in these words—"I quite agree with the Chief Justice that such an application could only be entertained, if made in the way stated by him.

I take this opportunity of pointing out that it has been a very common practice for sessions Judges to make recommendations for the transfer of cases from one district to another by letter, and that cases have often been so removed by a mere letter based on such recommendations.

It may be worth considering, whether some rule ought not to be laid down for dealing with such applications.

The same thing also happens in respect of civil cases.

It would seem, therefore, that I not only concurred in that view, but considered it desirable that the Court should lay down a formal rule, which should regulate the procedure in such cases, and should be a notice and a guidance to Judges and Magistrates when they should think fit to make such references in future.

Immediately afterwards I left the country, and was absent for 4 or 5 months, during which time no one took any steps in the matter. The result was that no formal rule was made, and this case appears to have passed out of sight.

Two years afterwards I had the honor to succeed to the charge of the English Department, and found that, notwithstanding this case, the practice continued to be such as it had formerly been, and therefore the course I took in this case was in strict conformity to the old practice which had not been departed from, notwithstanding this case.

I do not hesitate to say that the procedure suggested by Sir Barnes Peacock is the proper one when there are parties concerned; but the practice being such as I have stated, I considered myself justified in making the order which I did.

Then followed the judgments of the several judges, who heard the reference:

Garth, C.J.—I desire to add that I personally do not regret that this matter has been thoroughly ventilated and discussed in open Court.

It is extremely desirable that the public should fully understand that in this country there is the same law for the Government as for the subject; and that there is not one course of practice for the crown, and another for the prisoner.

So a full Bench of five judges, including Mr. Justice Jackson, have condemned the order of their colleague. The law has been vindicated. We are glad to observe that Mr. Justice Jackson himself acknowledges his own error. The noble dictum of the Court of Directors that not only should justice be done but that the people should feel that justice has been done is markedly exemplified in this judgment of the High Court. We hope all our Judges will remember and follow up the truism, not always we fear respected, that it is extremely desirable that the public should fully understand that IN THIS COUNTRY THERE IS THE SAME LAW FOR THE GOVERNMENT AS FOR THE SUBJECT;; and that there is not one course of practice for the Crown, and another for the prisoner. The High Court alone is competent to enforce the practical recognition of this truth.

THE DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES BILL.

WE have already said that the existing law fully meets the object of the present Bill. But our main objection to it lies in the circumstance that it substitutes executive action for the regular action of a court of law. The danger lies there. Under the existing law no person alleged to be guilty of performing a scandalous or defamatory, or obscene or immoral or seditious play, can be punished without a formal trial, and that means without good and sufficient evidence. The Bill, however, does away with trial of any kind; it arms the executive with full authority to suppress any play which they may consider objectionable under its provisions, and it may be surmised that their evidence would be sufficient for conviction before a Magistrate. It is this supremacy of the discretion of the executive which is so much fraught with danger to the liberty of the subject.

Now, are the executive, who in this matter will be chiefly European officers, competent to be fit judges of the character of native plays? Our contemporary of the *Englishman* draws a fair distinction between morality as judged from the Native standard and that judged from a European standard. He says:

Exhibitions which do not violate the Native standard of morality can hardly be said to deprave Native society; so that, as far as its functions in respect of public morals are merely conservative, the Government is not justified in suppressing such exhibitions.

Even if it be admitted that the Government may legitimately go beyond mere conservation of the public morals, and undertake the task of reforming them, it should be remembered that success in such a task depends upon its securing the sympathy of the public, and that it cannot secure that sympathy by imposing upon the public a standard of morality too exalted for their comprehension. In determining, therefore, what public exhibitions it should, or should not, prohibit, as immoral, it is bound, alike in justice and in policy, to be guided, to a great extent, by Native opinion.

In every society the theory of morality is in advance of the practice, and the practice of the best men, again, is in advance of that of the multitude. It may be safely assumed, therefore, that, in the views of the more enlightened member of Native society, the Government will always have at its command a standard of morals which, even though it should differ from the English standard, will be quite far enough in advance of that of the common herd of its Native subjects to serve the purposes even of education.

By going beyond such a standard, and legislating *ab alto*, the Government would not only certainly defeat the object it has in view, but probably produce an undesirable amount of irritation, and create worse evils than those it wishes to prevent. These arguments, of course, apply to the action of the Government in its capacity of moral censor only. As a political censor, it cannot be expected to accommodate its views to those of its subjects.

We had a notable example of European judgment on the morality of native jatras in a prosecution for obscene exhibition in a Dakhajagya

jatra which took place in Jessore in 1874. In this case the Assistant Magistrate himself was invited to witness the jatra, and who, shocked by the representations made in the performance, had a prosecution instituted before himself and convicted the performers. His argument was that when "representations of wood or stone can be obscene, how much more may the human body be if used for such vile purposes living in the flesh what wood and stone can but faintly imitate." Fortunately the District Magistrate, a sedate officer, to whom an appeal was made, took a proper view of the case and quashed the judgment of the Assistant Magistrate. We give below the judgment of the District Magistrate:

"This was a cause under section 292 of the Indian Penal Code instituted of his own motion by the Assistant Magistrate of Jhenida. The Assistant Magistrate had been invited to a native Jatra given by the principal accused and he as well as several native gentlemen of respectability and standing attended. The Jatra performed was that known as the Dakka Jagga, a play founded on Hindu religion in which the Hindu deity Sib and two attendant imps Nundy and Bhringy (whom the Assistant Magistrate designates as Ferengby) are represented. According to European notions the play would hardly be considered as decent, but there is much in the Hindu religion as it is observed by the common-people which is revolting to European ideas and possibly also to the ideas of the more refined and better educated natives themselves: Recognizing this the law expressly exempts from liability to criminal prosecutions representations used for any religious purposes. Baboo Radhakanto Banerjee the Sub-Deputy, an educated native gentleman, whose opinion on the point deserves consideration, says. "The two plays Dhruba Charitra and Dakha Jagga are equally founded on Hindu religion and are about equally religious, Nundy and Bringi are I believe represented as ugly persons; such performances are performed in the name of religion. The invitation was intended to convey a compliment to the Sub Divisional officer and also to gain for the giver of the Jatra the honor of his presence."

The fact that the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and other gentlemen of respectability and standing were invited to the entertainment is to my mind a conclusive evidence that the giver of it had no intention of wilfully breaking the law or of doing any thing which he regarded as likely to outrage the modesty of his guests. It is I think also doubtful notwithstanding the circumstances mentioned by the Assistant Magistrate whether the entertainment which was given by a private gentleman on private premises to his private guests can be considered as a representation wilfully exhibited to public view. The case is dismissed.

(Sd.) A. SMITH.
Jessore 1st April 1874 *Magistrate*

We reproduce the remarks which we made at the time upon this case:

"Can national ideas, tastes, and morals be changed by penal laws? The two jatras named above, Dukhya Jagya and Dhruva Charita, are founded on mythologic legends, and appeal to the religious feelings of the people. There may be expressions and representations, which may be repugnant to men of Western education and culture. but so long as they are not outrageously immoral, though they may be indecent in the common acceptation of the term, and so long as the people at large do not consider them objectionable, it is a fit question for the Government to consider whether it should enrage the feelings of the mass against it by interfering with their national amusements. Morality is a comparative term, and it is so much interwoven with religion that to define it by the application of the Penal Code would be to offer the grossest insult to the religious feelings of the Hindus. Take the Dukhya Jaggya Jatra for instance. The God Siva is a naked god; his surroundings are certainly not of an elevated character, and his votaries are multitudinous. If the scenic representations of his history are to be put down by the enforcement of the Penal Code, then the British Government will take upon itself the function of a censor of national religion and morality. Is the Government prepared to take this bold course, and does such a course fall within its legitimate province? We pause for a reply."

The Government has now given a reply, which is most disappointing. What we then doubted that the Government would do we are now grieved to observe it is now attempting to do in a most rash and dangerous manner. The effect of the proposed Bill will be a most arbitrary and irritating interference with the national amusements of the people There is now some security that if one Magistrate should take a wrong view, another and a superior officer might correct the error as in the Jessore case and in the late case of the Great National Theatre Company. But this Bill gives power to the executive to suppress at once any play, which they might consider objectionable, and arrest persons engaged in the performance. It is true that the conviction must be had before a magistrate, but part of the punishment will have been already executed by the executive, and the rest it may be easily imagined will follow as a matter of course. We submit that a more potent instrument of filling the popular mind with dissatisfaction and discontent could not have been devised than this Bill for the suppression of objectionable plays.

THE AGRARIAN DISTURBANCES BILL.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has listened to the voice of reason. He has agreed to embody in the Agrarian Disturbances Bill rules for the guidance of the Collector in the settlement of rates of rent. We give below these rules:

"Whenever in any suit instituted under the provisions of this Act it shall appear to the Collector that a ryot having a right of occupancy is liable to enhancement of the rent previously paid by him on the ground that the value of the produce or the productive powers of the land held by him have been increased otherwise than by the agency or at the expense of the ryot;

or whenever in any such suit it shall appear to the Collector that such ryot is entitled to claime an abatement of the rent previously paid by him on the ground that the value of the produce or the productive powers of the land held by him have been decreased by any cause beyond the powers of the said ryot,

the Collector shall, if possible, fix the rate of rent payable by such ryot, so that the rent previously paid by such ryot shall bear to the rent so fixed the same proportion as the former value of the produce of the soil, calculated on an average of three or five years rent before the date of the alleged rise or decrease in value, bears to the present value of such produce; but if in any such suit the Collector shall not be able to ascertain to his satisfaction the former value of the produce as required for the application of the above rule,

the Collector may determine the rate of rent payable by such ryot according to any of the following methods;—

(*a*) by fixing the rent of the ryot so that it shall represent such portion of the existing average gross value of the produce of the land held by him as the Collector shall consider fair and equitable with reference to the circumstances of each case;

(*b*) by fixing the rent of the ryot so that it shall represent such portion of the average net profits of the land held by him (after deducting from the average gross annual value of the produce of such lands such a sum as may be deemed proper on account of costs of production and disposal of such produce) as the Collector shall consider fair and equitable with reference to the circumstances of each case;

(*c*) by taking as the standard of comparison the rates which are generally paid by ryots having no right of occupancy in adjacent places, or in such places as the Collector may select, for lands of a similar description and having similar advantages; and by fixing the rates of rent to be paid by the ryot having a right of occupancy at such percentage below the rent which would be paid for the same lands by ryots having no right of occupancy as the Collector may consider fair and equitable with reference to the circumstances of each case."

These rules, however, still leave large discretion to the Collector. On the principle that half a loaf is better than no loaf we are willing to accept these rules, but we do hope that Sir Richard will yet consider whether the rules cannot be made more definite. The first rule is the rule of proportion laid down by a Full Bench of the High Court. We doubt whether the Council will be justified in adopting this rule. In the first place it is unworkable; and this is admitted on all hands. In the second place it is not the law, but a dictum of the High Court. A full Bench of the Court has laid down that rule, but another Full Bench may upset it. Is it reasonable to embody such a dictum in the law in supersession of the substantive law? The Council would be consistent if it would abrogate the existing law altogether, and lay down new principles for the determination of rates of rent, which it might consider fair and equitable. It might be urged that the Council could not do this so long as the substantive law was not amended, for if that law were in force in other districts it would not be quite fair to promulgate a new law in a few districts. But the whole principle of the Bill is exceptional. It purposes to suspend the action of the regular Courts and to substitute in lieu thereof the agency of the Collector. If the jurisdiction and procedure could be varied, why not the principles also, seeing that it is the indefiniteness of the existing law, which has brought about the present complications?

The scope of the present Bill is not so limited as is generally supposed. We fear it might lead to a general summary settlement of rent, if the Government should feel so disposed. The mooktears might so work the ryots as to foment disputes where there might be none now, and thus the extension of the law might be forced upon the Government. We can believe that Sir Richard Temple will not rashly or hastily extend it, but circumstances might be so shaped by the machinations of mooktears and others, that the Government might not be able to exercise control over them. In that case the great discretion left to the Collector might prove an engine of injustice and oppression to one party or the other. The settlement of the question would necessarily depend upon the personal sympathies or inclinations of the Collector. It would be a new phase of personal government which we are sure Sir Richard Temple would not himself approve. It might be said that the discretion of the Collector would not be absolute, that an appeal would lie from his decision to the Commissioner, but after all it would be discretion all round. Remembering that the interests at stake are most momentous, that the well-being of thousands of people would hinge upon the discretion of the Collector and the Commissioner, it is of the utmost practical importance that that discretion should be as limited as practicable. It is no answer to say that the new Act shall be in force only for three years. Those who have any experience in the working of laws know well that when a Court once pronounces an opinion, it is difficult to stem the current of that opinion. Sir Richard Temple is taking exceptional power of the highest magnitude, and he ought to hedge it with proper safeguards for the protection of the rights and interests of the people.

BARRISTERS, THEIR FEES AND ATTENDANCE.

NOT unfrequently we hear of complaints regarding the way some barristers treat their clients. They take briefs and fees, but when the hour for work comes, if they happen to be engaged elsewhere, they do not attend, but do not also return the fees they have pocketted, Respectable barristers generally either do not accept briefs when their hands are full, or when they cannot attend, they pass on the briefs to some other barristers, or return the fees received. But there are black sheep in the flock, who have not the same high sense of honor, and unless the Court takes severe notice of their conduct, the poor suitors suffer. We are glad to observe that an issue was raised in the Bombay High Court on this point, and we give below the decision of the Chief Justice of that Court as reported in the *Native Opinion*:

Mr. Browning, Barrister Bombay High Court has been ordered by the Hon. the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Green to refund the sum of Rs. 500 which he had received in December last from a Mahomedan as retainer of his services. The particulars of the case are: Mr. Browning was engaged by one Husson Chowdry to defend his case at Mhow. For some cause or other Mr. Browning failed to fulfil his engagement and his client lost his case. Enraged at the breach of promise by a gentleman of position, Husson filed a suit for the refund of Rs. 500 against Mr Browning in our Small Cause Court. Mr. Browning pleaded that the money given him by the plaintiff was a honorarium and consequently it could not be returned. On this Mr. O' Leary, before whom the case was heard, could do nothing but non-suit the plaintiff. The indefatigable Husson, though disappointed, did not despair and carried his case before the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice not deeming the explanation offered by Mr. Browning satisfactory, ordered him to return the money to the aggrieved Husson. Thus for the first time we believe the privilege of the Bar has been set aside by the Chief Justice in order to do justice to aggrieved suitors, and for which he deserves very great credit. We hope the members of the Bar will be careful as to how far they are to rely on their privilege.

Another case, though not quite similar, but much in the same direction, came before the High Court of Calcutta the other day. It is thus reported:

VANRENEN *vrs.* BERRELL.

Mr. WOODROFEE, in this case, moved for the appellant, that the appeal which had been struck out yesterday by reason of the nonappearance of counsel on behalf of the appellant, should be restored. The learned counsel moved an affidavit, which however, he did not read, from which he has said it appeared that the appellant had instructed two counsel to appear for him, *viz.*, Mr. Jackson and himself. Mr. Jackson could not appear as he had been called away to the mofussil; and he (Mr. Woodroffe) could not appear as he was engaged elsewhere at the time the case was called on. The appellant's attorney, Mr. Roberts, has instructed another counsel, Mr. Kennedy, to appear on behalf of the appellant, and Mr. Kennedy did accordingly appear, but stated to the Court that he was not prepared to go on with the case.

The Chief Justice.—And quite rightly, too. Why, the brief put in Mr. Kennedy's hands at the last moment.

Mr. Woodroffe.—My Lords, this is a very serious matter for my client, and I would ask your Lordships to reconsider it.

The Chief Justice.—The Court must protect itself. The business of the Court is very often at a standstill because learned counsel instructed to appear before us are engaged elsewhere when their cases are called on.

Mr. Woodroffe.—But this case, my Lords, is a peculiar one. Mr. Jackson could not appear; Mr. Kennedy gave no notice to those instructing him that he was not prepared to go on with the case; and I did all I could to appear, but was in the middle of a case at the time this case was called on.

Mr. Justice Pontifex.—You ought to remember, Mr. Woodroffe, that this case was specially fixed for yesterday.

The Chief Justice.—We decline to restore this appeal during the present sitting; and we do not hold out much hope of doing so during the next sitting. We must make a stand against the present practice of instructing none but leading counsel to appear in the cases. If parties choose to instruct three leading members of the bar to appear for them, they

must take their chance, and they must not be surprised if none of these three are able to appear. In every case of any importance, parties ought always to instruct junior members of the bar to appear for them. This is always done in England, and it ought to be done here. And by juniors, I do not mean junior in the sense that Mr. Woodroffe is junior to Mr. Kennedy. By juniors, I mean members of the bar, who will appear in Court with their briefs, and wait for their cases to be called on. We therefore reject this application.

The Chief Justice was quite right, The juniors ought to feel thankful to his Lordship. But we wish his Lordship had gone a step further. If his Lordship had at the same time ruled that a counsel failing to appear in a case should return the fees received, he would have done a public service. We dare say that the Barristers engaged in the case under notice, all honorable gentlemen, have returned the fees as they could not render the service required, but there are Barristers and Barristers. The regulation of the fees of the Barristers by the High Court has become a matter of public necessity. It is true that they are guided by their code of honor, but none knows better than members of the professions themselves that there are men among them upon whom the rules of professional "etiquette" are not a sufficient restraint. We have heard of cases in which the Barrister engaged after having marked a fee on his brief would not attend at the eleventh hour unless the fee was considerably raised because he had since received a brief with a much larger fee. Surely this sort of extortion is not consistent with the high moral code of the profession. Nothing could be more honorable than the principles of the profession, but where the profession is not strong enough to enforce those principles in all cases, the Court, which is the protector of the honor of the profession as well as of the interests of the public, ought to interfere. We hope the judgment of the Chief Justice of Bombay will have the desired effect. The leaders of the bar ought also to take steps to preserve the honor of their profession.

THE SAHEB AND THE NIGGER.

THE BETTER class of Europeans will doubtless regret the violence which the rampant Anglo-Saxon in this country every now and then uses towards the weak native. We have lately had the Chittagong case. Two versions of this case have appeared, and in the absence of authenticated proceedings we cannot form a correct estimate of the facts at issue. It does, however, seem strange to us that the Divisional Commissioner should drive about with the accused on the pretext of an enquiry; there can be but one opinion among the ignorant natives about such familiarity between the Commissioner Saheb and the accused Saheb. If in this case the defendant was wholly innocent, as alleged by our correspondent, why did the Magistrate impose upon him the heavy fine of Rs. 500, while if this fine was a measure of the offence charged, then it might be open to question whether the merited punishment has been awarded. But as we have said above we cannot form a correct estimate of the facts without seeing the papers in the case. A similar case is reported by a Bhaugulpore correspondent. A planter is said to have fired upon certain ryots, but he took time by the forelock and charged the latter for making an unlawful assembly. We are informed that the planter pleaded before the Joint Magistrate that he had fired or attempted to fire in self-defence. The Joint Magistrate convicted the poor ryots and sentenced them to rigorous imprisonment. Fortunately an appeal lay to the Sessions Judge, who has released the prisoners and directed them to prosecute the planter. In this case too we have not received the papers, and cannot therefore from a correct estimate of facts We would recommend our correspondent to send us the record of the case. It is next reported that a party of soldiers killed some natives at Barielly while out at shooting. Possibly this was an accident, but such accidents are most unfortunate, and seem rather to be on the increase. The *East* gives the following extraordinary judgment of the Joint Magistrate of Dacca in a case in which the Executive Engineer arbitrarily interfered with the innocent amusements of some poor people:

"Mr. Johnson, Executive Engineer, complains that being kept awake at night by a nauch under his compound wall, he went out and asked if the men had a pass, which they had not; and he bade them stop, which they refused to do. He fetched a Head Constable, whom they would not heed. Then he brought the Assistant Superintendent of Police who ordered the nauch to cease, It was stopped and when the Assistant Superintendent went home in about half an hour, the noise began again, Mr. Johnson went again and ordered the men to stop, but Khub Lal ordered the dancers to go on, and then Mr. Johnson go home. Mr. Johnson bade the dancers stop, and said he would stay there till the noise was put an end to; whereat six or 7 men assaulted him, No great harm was done, and Mr. Johnson finding that the Police for whom he had sent, did not appear; expressed his intention of going to the District Superintendent. As he went, he was pursued, seized, and severely hurt as stated in his deposition. Of course Mr. Johnson had no right to stop the nauch, nor had the Assistant Superintendent, and had the men contented themselves with quietly defying the orders they would have been in the right though there is every excuse for Mr. Johnson's act. The utter want of decently separated residences in this town compels Europeans to live in the midst of Bazars and on the edges of roads, and it is a nuisance that should be forbidden, for it ought to be made hideous every time a panchayet is held. But if accused went after Mr. Johnson and attacked him in the savage and lawless manner described they have been guilty of causing hurt. Their defence is that no assault was committed, which is manifestly false also that there is no identification but this Court considers the identification sufficient. Also they accuse Mr. Johnson of criminal trespass, and insulting their caste, in that he came into their private yard, and defiled their food, a dinner spread for 50 or 100 men This might be some palliation, if true, but Mr. Johnson distinctly declares on being questioned that the place was well-lighted and there could not have been food spread out without his seeing it, that no eating had begun, but the dancing was still going on at this 3rd and last visit there, that he did not go within awning which indeed he says as the people were so crowded that it would have been impossible to move in and that in fact he did not go off the lane. There is not therefore any palliation in the opinion of the Court for this attack. It would have been in any case a grave offence, as the men could have found their remedy in the Court if insulted, and the fact of both the men identified being in service of Europeans enhances I think the gravity of the offence.

There are several important points in this case. In the first place the Engineer had no power under the law to interfere with the natch. If he considered the noise a nuisance, he ought to have proceeded against the persons creating it under the law. He had no right to bid the dancers stop, or to go and defile the food of the people invited to this entertainment by his presence. If he was assaulted he was rightly served. He had committed a criminal trespass, and the entertainers were fully justified in ejecting him. As our contemporary says, suppose a Hindu neighbour of the Saheb had gone and wantonly interfered with a ball and supper on the plea that the sound of the music was a nuisance to him, would the Magistrate have punished the dancers for giving a proper chastisement to the audacious meddler? Would he have justified the Hindu? The Joint Magistrate says, "of course Mr. Johnson had no right to stop the natch, nor had the Assistant Superintendent, and had the men contented themselves with quietly defying the orders they would have been in the right, though there is every excuse for Mr. Johnson's act." But the defendants pleaded gross provocation. The Magistrate admits that "they accuse Mr. Johnson of criminal trespass, and insulting their caste, in that he came into their private yard, and defiled their food, a dinner spread for 50 or 100 men." "This," he adds, "might be some palliation, if true, but Mr. Johnson distinctly declares on being questioned that the place was well-lighted and there could not have been food spread out without his seeing it, that no eating had begun but the dancing was still going on at this 3rd and last visit there, that he did not go within awning which indeed he says as the people were so crowded that it would have been impossible to move in and that in fact he did not go off the lane." Whether the food was spread or not or whether the eating had commenced or not was nothing to the point; if the Saheb came within a certain point of the grounds his presence was a defilement, and on that point the accusers could give the best evidence. Need we say that it is this sort of rampant Anglo-Saxonism, which tends so much to alienate the sympathies of the people, and fills them with discontent. The Europeans seem to forget that every one of them in this country is a representative man, that the ignorant populace are apt to identify the whole European community with the acts of the single individual, and that therefore a serious responsibility rests upon them, one and all. There is another point in this case, which deserves to be noticed. It is the want of record. It was a summary trial, and the Joint Magistrate made the record as meagre as possible. On this point Mr. Justice Jackson in hearing another case justly remarks: "That under a procedure in which the Legislature has provided a minimum of protection for the person affected by the order, it is absolutely necessary that the Magistrate should most strictly observe the scanty formalities prescribed, otherwise it will be absolutely impossible for the High Court as a Court of Revision or any other authority, to exercise the smallest control over proceedings which form the subject of complaint." We submit that sufficient experience has been gained of the working of summary trials under the new Criminal Procedure to justify the abrogation of the new system.

The following circular has been issued by the Assam Government:

Chief Commissioner of Assam's Circular No. 11 (Judicial) dated the 16th March 1876. "Sir, I am directed to narrate the following facts for the information and future guidance of yourself and your subordinates. 2 In July last a cooly on a tea garden was struck on the face by the European Assistant Manager of the Estate. Almost immediately after receiving the blow the cooly died and the cause of death was proved by medical evidence to have been a large clot of blood pressing on the brain. The case was tried by an Assistant Commissioner of the 2nd Class who found the death was not attributable to any disease but was caused directly or indirectly by the blow or blows struck by the prisoner. The prisoner also pleaded guilty but disclaimed all intention of causing death. The Assistant Commissioner sentenced the prisoner to simple imprisonment for seven days and to a fine of Rupees 150 or in default to a further simple imprisonment for three weeks.

3. The Government of India in commenting on the case observes that as there is no doubt that the blow was struck without any intention of inflicting serious injury, it is not desirable to order a new trial. But His Excellency in Council is of opinion that in cases of this nature in which death results from an intentional blow the trial should be conducted by the Sessions Judge and that the Assistant Commissioner in question should not have tried this case himself instead of committing it. The Government add that in any case the sentence seems to have been unduly lenient and quite inadequate to the offence and that the Assistant Commissioner showed great want of judgment.

(Sd.) H. J. PEET,—*Captain*,
Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

Our Assam Correspondent makes the following comments upon the above:

These are the questions which occur to me on reading the above. Why the names of the "European Assistant Manager" and the "Assistant Commissioner of the second class" have been studiously omitted from this circular—why it is issued 3 days after the Prince had left this country when the cause thereof arose more than 3 months prior to His Royal Highness' landing on these shores? With the disclosures in this and other planting cases I am surprised how could Mr. Hobhouse seriously propose the suppression of such plays as Chakurdurpan? I do not know the name of the "European Assistant Manager" but I can mention that the "Assistant Commissioner of the 2nd Class" alluded to is no other than Mr. G. H. Damant. C. S. of Cachar. All the planters in Assam are Honorary Magistrates and it is not known whether the accused is also an Honorary Magistrate."

More we need not say. We are surprised that the local Government took no notice of the case without pressure from the Government of India. It is worthy of consideration as suggested by our Correspondent as to whether the tea-planters of Assam should be indiscriminately vested with the powers of Honorary Magistrate, removed as they are from the seat of public opinion, and placed as they are amidst people with whom they have direct personal relations and who are too weak to protect themselves.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE BEG to remind our readers that the public meeting in honor of Lord Northbrook takes place at the Town Hall on Saturday next at 4 P. M. We hope that all classes of the community will muster strong and testify their gratitude to the retiring Viceroy. The last budget is the best proof of the spirit of his administration.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA has issued a notification announcing the arrangements made for the reception of the new Viceroy. Lord Lytton is expected on the 11th instant, and Lord Northbrook will probably leave Calcutta on the 13th idem.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant Governor returned yester-morning by the mail train from his tour in Chota Nagpore, having visited Hazaribagh and Ranchee and the falls of the Sooburnreka. He was accompanied in his tour by the Commissioner Mr. Robinson.

WE ARE EXCEEDINGLY sorry to learn that ill-health compels Mr. Dampier to take leave at once and embark for Europe. He has done hard work during the present session of the

Bengal Council, and broken his health; his medical adviser recommends immediate change, and we believe he leaves next week. Mr. Reynolds officiates for him in the Bengal Secretariat, and Mr. Mackenzie continues to act for Mr. Reynolds at the Board of Revenue. We hope to see Mr. Dampier back with renovated health in November next.

THE Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Bill has been passed. There was a long and somewhat animated debate upon it. Of course the debate was one-sided. Its object was to vindicate the policy of the Government. We cannot congratulate the speakers on the success they achieved. The whole drift of the debate was a begging of the question. We have much to say on what Mr. Hope and Mr. Hobhouse said on the subject, but as we have neither time nor space this week, we must reserve comments till the next issue.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to learn that Mr. Justice Phear, instead of taking leave as he had originally contemplated, has resigned his appointment. What could be the circumstances, which have induced him to change his mind within a fortnight? This we confess is a mystery to us. Mr. Phear's retirement from the bench of the High Court is a matter for public regret. He has been a most independent and fearless Judge; what the Chief Justice lately enunciated that in this country the law is the same for the Government and the subject he has in his judicial career followed to the letter. A zealous advocate of constitutional law and the liberty of the subject he has whenever occasion has arisen shewn a most intelligent and enlightened appreciation of both. In the series of articles on Personal Government, which we wrote about three years ago, we endeavoured to shew that the abuses of power, which we dragged to light, were exposed chiefly through the instrumentality of his judicial mind. If the High Court is a bulwark of the liberty of the subject, it is Judges like Mr. Phear, who contribute to the maintenance of this beneficent character of the Court. Without meaning any disparagement to the other Judges we must confess that by the retirement of Mr. Justice Phear the High Court loses one of its strongest pillars. We are glad to learn that the bar propose to give him a farewell dinner, and that the pleaders of the High Court also propose to honor him with a valedictory address. We need not allude to the social qualities of Mr. Phear; his thoroughbred courtesy, amiableness, and the warm interest he takes in the social progress of the country are too well known to require notice. A man of his active mind is not likely to be idle at home; we hope to see him one day in the National Congress of England where his sympathy with the people of this country is sure to find a fitting and eloquent expression. He carries our best wishes. In the history of judicial administration in Bengal his name will be honored and cherished as Phear the Fearless.

AS ALREADY notified the Census of Calcutta will be taken on the night of the 6th instant. A better officer could not have been selected for the superintendence of the work than Mr. Beverley, who took the general Census of Bengal in 1872. The arrangements made by him seem to be judiciously planned. We only wish that local Committees had been appointed consisting of educated residents in the several wards. We make no doubt that many would have gladly rendered assistance, and with their aid and co-operation the enumerators would have found their work easy. We however hope that our educated and public-spirited countrymen will still give their assistance in the way of disabusing the minds of the ignorant mass of their mistaken notions of the objects of the Census. As usual there seems to be an impression that the ulterior object is taxation. This mistake cannot be too promptly corrected. There is also a notion we are told among the unfortunates of Calcutta that the object is to perfect the Act XIV. registers. These apprehensions are likely to do mischief, and ought to be removed at once. We need hardly say that the object of the Census is to obtain reliable statistics for sanitary purposes, and not for any sinister purposes. The enumerators ought to be furnished with a statement of the objects of the Census in both English and vernacular for distribution among all persons, who will be called upon to make returns.

ANOTHER Police outrage in Calcutta is reported to us. We are informed that on Saturday last two Policemen of Shampookur Thanna without any uniform on entered the house of a native gentleman, to arrest a person with or without warrant. This man, who is a neighbour of that gentleman, was in the habit of bathing in that house; at about 10 A. M. he came to bathe, followed by two Mahomedan-looking men; the owner of the house saw them, but took no notice of them; for about a quarter of an hour, they talked with the man engaged in the bath, which was in the courtyard, but suddenly the man ran into the zenana, and the strangers pursued him; the zenana ladies seeing them were greatly alarmed and raised a cry; the owner of the house was taken aback, he went into the zenana, and asked the men to come out; he enquired who they were, and then for the first time learnt that they were Policemen, and had come to arrest the man, who was bathing, on a charge of theft. He taxed them for not giving out their errand on entry into the house, for not arresting the man whilst he was bathing, and for trespassing into the zenana. They then demanded the man, who had fled into the zenana; he brought him and handed him over to them, and there the matter ended. But the question arises, firstly what authority had these Policemen to trespass into the house of a private individual, to which the man arrested did not belong, without giving any intimation, secondly to trespass into the zenana, thirdly why did they come without their uniform on, fourthly why did they not arrest the man, whilst he was bathing, and fifthly if they wanted the help of the owner of the house, why did they not say so at first? There can be no sanctity of the Hindu zenana, if the Police can with impunity enter it in the way these men did, and if such things occur in Calcutta, what may not occur in the Mofussil? This case, coming so close after that of the College Square Ghosal family, shews the necessity of some energetic action on the part of the Government for putting an end to the pranks of the Police.

THE NEW PARTITION BILL is proceeding at a rapid pace through the Bengal Council. The Bill has been carefully revised, but we would have preferred if the passing of the Bill had been deferred so as to give the public interested in it an opportunity to express their views upon it. There was one point raised at the last sitting of the Council regarding which it was significant that all the native members voted on one side, and all the European members on the other. The question was this, whether the pay and allowances of the Deputy Collector engaged in partition work should be charged to the estate in partition. All other charges being borne by the estate, and the pay of the Deputy Collector not being chargeable upon it under the existing law, it ought not to be charged upon it. It was urged on the other side that it was the proprietors of the estate, who benefitted by the services of the Deputy Collector, and they ought to be made to pay for the same. But it should be remembered that all the elaborate machinary required for partition is needed chiefly for the protection of the Government revenue. Under the law of inheritance the Hindus and Mahomedans are entitled to partition of property, and if the Government revenue was not concerned, they could effect it amicably among themselves without much cost. But the protection of the Government revenue requires the intervention of the Deputy Collector, and when the proprietors will pay for amins, surveyors, peskars, and other establishments, it is but fair that the Government should pay the Deputy Collector, whose primary duty it will be to watch the Government interest. It is observable that the more the expenses of partition, the greater will be the drawback to it, and all the labour taken for the simplification of the law will we fear have been thrown away. There was a tie in the votes on the motion for relieving the estate of the charge of the Deputy Collector, but the casting vote of the acting President negatived it. We hope that the Council will re-consider this subject.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal has passed a Resolution on the subject of taking security from ministerial officers. It would appear that the attention of the Lieutenant Governor was drawn to this question by the discovery, in March 1875, of a series of embezzlements committed in the office of the Magistrate and Collector of Balasore. The ministerial officers implicated in these embezzlements were the head-clerk of the Road Cess Department and the local fund clerk. Neither of these officers had given any security. After consulting the local officers His Honor has laid down the general principle that ministerial officers whose duties require that public money (whether strictly Government money or local or municipal funds,) should pass through their hands should be required to furnish security to the amount of 10 per cent. in excess of the highest sum which is likely to be in their custody at one time. Some of the Commissioners had proposed to extend the rule to officers of the department of account, but the Lieutenant Governor does not see that there is any necessity for this. Nor does His Honor consider it necessary to apply the principle to those officers who are merely entrusted with the expenditure of a fixed permanent advance, as the situation of such officers may be considered to be a sufficient security for such small disbursements. All heads of departments are accordingly directed to draw up a lists of their subordinates who should be required to give security under this rule, with the amount of security to be given in each case, and to submit the lists for the approval of the Government.

WE ARE INDEBTED to the Financial Department for a valuable statement shewing the value of principal standard coins of the world and their equivalents in rupees:

COUNTRY.	Denomination of coin.	* Equivalent of Rupees, when the price of a British Standard ounce of Silver is.
Gold.		50d.
Portugal	10-Milrei	28·674
United States	Eagle	26·541
Japan	10-Yen	26·460
Brazil	10-Milrei	14·496
Scandinavia	20-Crown	14·226
Great Britain	Sovereign	12·916
Germany	20-Mark	12·667
Netherlands	10-Florin	10·668
Latin Convention†	20-France	10·242
SILVER		Equivalent in Rupees.
China	Tael (Canton)	3·445
United States	§Trade Dollar	2·288
Mexico	Dollar	2·285
Spain	5-Peseta	2·185
Latin Convention	5-Franc	
Bolivia, Columbia, Chili, Ecuador	Peso	2·104
Peru	Sol	
Russia	Rouble	1·680
Siam	Tical	1·230
Austria‡	Florin	1·039
India	Rupee	1
Java	Florin	·884

RELATIVE VALUE OF GOLD TO SILVER AT VARIOUS PRICES IN STERLING OF STANDARD SILVER IN LONDON.

d.	1 to	d.	1 to
40	23·575	51	18·490
41	22·999	52	18·134
42	22·452	53	17·792
43	21·930	54	17·463
44	21·431	55	17·145
45	20·955	56	16·839
46	20·499	57	16·544
47	20·064	58	16·258
48	19·646	59	15·983
49	19·245	60	15·716
50	18·860		

* The equivalent in Rupees is calculated irrespective of seignorage. The value in rupees corresponding to any price of silver not given in the table will be readily found by multiplying the value corresponding to the nearest price given in the table by that price and then dividing the product by the price in question.

† This includes France, Belgium, Swizerland, Italy and Greece.

The double standard prevails in these countries, the 5-franc being the silver coin of legal tender for all amounts. The silver token coinage is depreciated, being only 835 fine. The relative value of gold to silver in the currency is 1 to 15·5.

‡ "Since 1870, both Austria and Hungary are coining 4 and 8-golden pieces in gold, corresponding with the 10 and 20-franc pieces of France."—Tate's Modern Cambist.

§ Only for international use.

REVIEW.

A Sheaf Gleaned in French Fields by Toru Dutt. 1876.

Those who question the progress that education is making in this country under the benignant rule of

England would do well to glance over this book. Here is a collection of poems translated from the French and mostly from living authors, by a young lady, the daughter of Babu Govin Chunder Dutt of the well-known Rambagan Dutt Family. A few specimens from the volume would give the reader a fairer idea of it than any comments or praise of our own. We select pieces by two of the most popular poets of France, Beranger and Victor Hugo.

MY VOCATION,
Beranger.

A waif on this earth,
Sick, ugly and small,
Contemned from my birth
And rejected by all,
From my lips broke a cry.
Such as anguish may wring,
Sing,—said God in reply,
Chant poor little thing.

By Wealth's coach besmeared
With dirt in a shower,
Insulted and jeered
By the minions of power,
Where—oh where shall I fly?
Who comfort will bring?
Sing—said God in reply,
Chant poor little thing.

Life struck me with fright——
Full of chances and pain,
So I hugged with delight
The drudge's hard chain;
One must eat,—yet I die,
Like a bird with clipped wing,
Sing—said God in reply,
Chant poor little thing.

Love cheered for a while
My morn with his ray,
But like a ripple or smile
My youth passed away.
Now near Beauty I sigh,
But fled is the spring;
Sing—said God in reply,
Chant poor little thing.

All men have a task,
And to sing is my lot——
No meed from men I ask
But one kindly thought.
My vocation is high ——
'Mid the glasses that ring,
Still—still comes that reply,
Chant poor little thing,

THE FORTS OF PARIS.
Victor Hugo.
(L'Annee Terrible.)

They are the watch-dogs, terrible, superb,
Enormous, faithfully that Paris guard.
As at each moment we could be surprised,
As a wild horde is there, as ambush vile
Creeps sometimes even to the city walls,
Nineteen in number, scattered on the mounts
They watch, —— unquiet, menacing, sublime,
Over dark spaces limitless, at eve,
And as the night advances, warn, inform
And one another aid, far stretching out
Their necks of bronze around the wall immense.
They rest awake, while peacefully we sleep,
And in their hoarse lungs latent thunders growl
Low premonitous. Sometimes, from the hills
Sharply and suddenly bestrewed with stars,
A lightning darts athwart the sombre night
Over the valleys; then the heavy veil
Of twilight thick, or utter darkness, falls
Upon us, masking in its silence deep
A treacherous snare, and in its peace, a camp:
Like a huge crawling serpent round us winds
The enemy and enlaces us in coils
Inveterate, interminable, but in vain.
At a respectful distance keep the forts
A multitude, a populace of monstrous guns,
That in the far horizon, wolf-like prowl.
Bivouac, and tomb, and prison, Paris now is all.
Upright and straight before the universe
That has become a solitude, she stands
A sentinel, and surprised with weariness
From over-watching, slumbers: all is still.
Men, women, children, sobs passionate, bursts
Of triumphant laughter, cars, footsteps, quays,
Squares, crossways, and the river's sandy banks,
The thousand roofs whence issue murmurs low.
The murmurs of our dreams, the hope that says
I trust and I believe, the hunger, that, I die,
The dark despair that knows not what it says,
All, all keep silence. O thou mighty crowd!
O noises indistinct and vague! O sleep
Of all a world! And O great glorious dreams
Unfathomable,—that ever one and all
Mock our frail wisdom, now are ye submerged
In one vast ocean of oblivion deep.—
But they—are there, formidable and grand,
Eternally on watch.
On a sudden spring
The people, startled, breathless, doleful, awed,
And bend to listen. What is it they hear?
A subterraneous roar,—a voice profound
As from a mountain's bowels. All the town
Listens intent, and all the country round
Awakes.— and hark! to the first rumbling sound
Succeeds a second, hollow, sullen, fierce,
And in the darkness other noises crash
And echo follows echo flying far!
A hundred voices terrible through night
Rolling, reverberating, and dying off!
It is the forts. It is that they have seen
In depths profound of spaces vast and dim
The sinister cannon-waggons darkly grouped
It is, that they the outlines have surprised
Of cannons ranged; it is that in some wood
From whence the owl has fled on hurried wings,
Beside a field, they faintly have descried
The black swarm of battalions on the march,
With bayonet gleams, like points of silver sharp
Commingled; it is that in thickets dense
They have found out the flash of traitorous eyes
Or tread of stealthy steps.
How grand they are,
These great watch-dogs, that in the darkness bay!

We must make room for another piece which seems to be original. It is the concluding sonnet.

CONCLUDING SONNET.
A mon Pere.

The flowers look loveliest in their native soil,
Amid their kindred branches; plucked, they fade,
And lose the colours Nature on them laid,
Though bound in garlands with assiduous toil.
Pleasant it was, afar from all turmoil,
To wander through the valley, now in shade
And now in sunshine, where these blossoms made
A Paradise, and gather in my spoil.
But better than myself no man can know
How tarnished have become their tender hues
E'en in the gathering, and how dimmed their glow!
Wouldst thou again new life in them infuse,
Thou who hast seen them where they brightly blow?
Ask Memory. She shall help my stammering Muse.

The notes appended to the volume are nearly as interesting as the poems. We select three, one on account of its being appended to the first piece, and two for their personal allusions.

X. My Vocation. This song was a great favourite of Thackeray. The reader may perhaps remember his reference to it in his lecture on Goldsmith, and his quotation of the opening lines as peculiarly applicable to that poet:—

"Jet'e sur cette boule,
Laid, chetif, et souffrant;
Etouffe dans la foule,
Faute d'etre assez grand;
Une plainte touchante
De ma bouche sortit;
Le bon Dieu me dit; Chante,
Chante, pauvre petit!"

LXII. The Child on the Sea-shore. Auguste Vacquerie is a very pure poet, pure both in his life and his works. Like Wordsworth he thinks that a poet's life must conform to his works, otherwise those works can never be sincere; and he is right. M. Vacquerie is a devoted admirer of Shakespeare, and a great friend of Victor Hugo who calls him in *Les Chatiments* "the brother of his sons." He has written an excellent comedy *Tragaldabas*. He has also translated some plays of Shakespeare in conjunction with a friend M. Paul Meurice. It is no disparagement to him to say, that these translations of Shakespeare are far inferior to those of an honored friend of the present writer, Le Chevalier de Chatelain of Castelnau Lodge, the school-fellow and friend of Victor Hugo, for that is tantamount only to saying they are inferior to the best translations of Shakespeare in the French language,—but they are still, by no means common or contemptible translations. M. Vacquerie's principal poetical works are "*l'Enfer de l' Esprit*" and "*Demi-Teintes*." In criticism, he has written a volume sparkling with spirit, gaiety and good sense, called *Profils et Grimaces*. His contributions to reviews and journals have been very numerous.

CLXVI. Concluding Sonnet. The writer of these pages has only to add here, that the pieces signed A are by her dear and only sister Aru, who fell asleep in Jesus on the 23rd July 1874, at the early age of twenty years. The last piece she translated was Colinette. Had she lived this book with her help might have been better, and the writer might perhaps have had less reason to be ashamed of it, and less occasion to ask for the reader's indulgence. Alas!

"Of all sad words of tongue and pen
The saddest are these,—it might have been."

From one of the notes (no 160) we see that Sanscrit is not a sealed language to Miss Dutt What we have a right then to expect,—nay what we have a right to demand from her is a Sanscrit Anthology rendered into English with as much spirit and grace as the French poems in the charming volume before us.

Correspondence.

INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE POLICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

DEAR SIR,—I am an old Police officer of old standing and with limited knowledge of English. I would therefore thank you if you will kindly publish after necessary corrections my letters in your much esteemed journal with your remarks thereon.

There is a great want of uniformity in the system of working in the Bengal Police; great want in matters of discipline, and good many consequent irregularities in the keeping up of Registers at Stations.

To remedy these evils as also to show to the Inspector General of Police—(Mr. Hankey) that we the Inspectors do never over-look the faults in the Registers, but are seldom listened to, I betake myself to the following subjects for his information and kind orders, through the medium of your journal.

Instances are not of unfrequent occurrence in which it has been found that the local officers do not much care about laws and rules framed by Government and other authorities; and that when they are pitched into they generally try to throw the responsibility upon their poor subordinates who in consequence suffer.

I am however glad to say that we have got rid of good many evils by the kind instructions and strict superintendence of Captain—who really deserves hearty thanks of the Force for all that he has done within such a short time for its improvement The men and officers now look more decent, more energetic and active than before.

First with regard to Station diary. The prevailing practice is to open this diary at 6 A. M. and close it at 9 P. M. every day. This practice is enjoined Para. 10 Sec. 12 of Circular D—which purports to say that Station diary should be a complete, but brief, record of all information recieved at Police Stations during the previous 24 hours. The way it is being kept up, it cannot really contain informations of previous 24 hours but that of 16 hours only. It being closed at 9 P. M. any information laid before the Police after this hour is either reserved for next day's diary, or if it escapes the memory of the officer in charge of the station is altogether omitted from it. All Police Rules and Regulations bearing on the subject enact that when an officer in charge of a Police Station goes out to investigate a case he should leave the charge of his Station to the officer next in rank present at the Station mentioning the fact in the Station diary. My argument now is that if a very serious offence is reported at a Police Station after 9 P. M. requiring the immediate presence on the spot of the officer incharge, how can he record this information in the Station diary. It has been closed and will be opened next morning and the information so received will therefore have to be entered in next-day's Station diary by the officer left in charge —a procedure never contemplated by the circular ament the subject far less by the Criminal Procedure Code. In short the practice of closing Station diary at 9 P. M. every day is wrong. It should be left open for whole day and night and sent to the District Superintendent's office every second day with all information of the previous 24 hours. It ought to be closed just when next day's diary is to begin, so that information communicated to the Police any time during the day and night may be committed to writing in the diary immediately on its receipt at the Station.

The form of Station diary given in the appendix to Circular D tends however to shew that the diary is to be closed at 9 P. M. because the post at same places leaves at that hour. This explanatory form is not in keeping with the circular and therefore should be corrected at once.

The practice, objectionable as it is, obtains almost in every District and we hope Mr. Hankey will kindly correct it.

II.

The second question about Station diary is as to who is the right man to sign each information recorded therein, whether the writer of it or necessarily the officer in charge of the Station (even if he does not write it) as maintained by Mr. —

2. The order of signing each information in the Station-diary was called for when some difficulties were experienced by judicial officers in cases before them in which Station diary was put in as evidence without the writer to swear to its contents. The writer of the information in the diary who writes from the mouth of the informant is the principal witness to swear that such information was laid at the Station by the informant, the officer under whose order, or superintendence or within whose hearing it is written, comes under the category of secondary evidence and is not what law of evidence requires. It generally happens that a Sub Inspector is in charge of a station, but a Head Constable writes out the diary. In such a case who is the right man to sign it? Whether the Sub-Inspector or the Head Constable? In my humble opinion I think the latter. Circular D also says that the writer of each information will sign it (3) If the whole of the Station diary is written by an officer other than the officer incharge of the Station, the question then might arise as to whether the copy of this diary which goes to the District Superintendent's office, is to go with only the writers initial to each information therein, and without any interference whatever, by the officer in charge. I would say no; he will in such a case sign his name at the end of the Station-diary after it is closed, and sign the writer's name in the copy for him, and with his signature at the end of it send on to the District Superintendent's office.

Yours truely,
A POLICEMAN.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P
John Tannuk Esq. Moorshedabad	3	6	0
Moonshi Mobaruk Ali, Mymensing	13	4	0
Ranchee Public Library	13	4	0
Baboo Sreeram Chatterjea, Saknarah	6	10	0
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Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*March* 29, 1876.

GENERAL—*The 24th February* 1876.—Baboo Anund Mohun, Mozoomdar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21 Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

The 28th February 1876.—Mr. Francis Johnston Graham Campbell Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is appointed to have charge of the Bettiah division of the Chumparun district, with effect from the date on which he assumed charge of that sub-division.

The 22nd March 1876—Mr J. M. Lowis, District and Session Judge of Bhagulpore, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 7th April 1876, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. E. S. Moseley, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector Durbhanga, is appointed to act as District and Sessions Judge of Bhagulpore during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J.M. Lowis, or until further orders.

Mr. J. P. Grant, Officiating District Sessions Judge of Mymensingh, is appointed to act in the First Grade of Judges

during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. M. Lowis, or until further orders.

The 23rd March 1876.—Mr. J. Crawfurd, A B., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 17th April next, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Rusomoy Datta, Sub-Deputy Collector, Noakhelly, having resumed charge of his duties on the forenoon of the February 18th 1876, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 30th December last, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 5th January 1876, is cancelled.

Mr. James Austin Bourdillon, Acting Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal is allowed leave for three months under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 17th April 1876, or any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

The 24th March 1876.—Baboo Kali Sunker Sein, who ceased to act as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in the district of Chittagong, is appointed to act temporarily as a Sub-Deputy Collector in that district, and is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X (B. C.) of 1871.

The services of Mr. Colman Patrick Lowis Macaulay, M. A., Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunahs are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of India, in the Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce Department with effect from the 31st instant.

The 27th March 1876.—Mr. Henry Murray Tobin, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, in charge of the Raneegunge division of the Burdwan district, is transferred to the 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr. F. Wyer, C. S., reported his departure from India on furlough on the 16th March 1876.

The services of Baboo Omullochurn Mullick, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, are placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, of this Government, for employment on special duty.

Baboo Rojonee Comar Dutt, Sub-Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is appointed to act as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in that district during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Omullo Churn Mullick, or until further orders.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

The Eighth Annual distribution of Prizes to the girls of the Chorebagan Female School will take place at the school premises No. 77, Mooktaram Baboo's Street, on Friday next the 7th April at 5-½ P. M. The Hon'ble Mr Justice Phear will preside on the occasion and Mrs. Phear will distribute the prizes.

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এতদ্দ্বারা সংবাদ দেওয়া যাইতেছে যে আগামি ১৭ই আপ্রেল সোমবার কিম্বা তাহার পরে কোন দিনে উক্ত কোম্পানির দ্বিতীয় ডিভিডেণ্ড অংশ প্রতি ১০ টাকার হিসাবে ১৩ই আপ্রেল তারিখের রেজিষ্টরি অংশিদার দগকে তাঁহা দিগের অংশের সার্টিফিকেট কোম্পানির অত্র আপিসে উপস্থিত করিলে দেওয়া যাইবেক।

অধ্যক্ষ সভার অনুমতিক্রমে
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বোম্বাই,
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NOTICE.

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NOTICE.

The Oriental Gas Company beg to announce that the price of Gas in Calcutta and Howrah will be reduced to Five Rupees per 1,000 feet from the 1st March next.

J. BLACKBURN,
Engineer and Manager.

January 1st 1876.

NOTIFICATION.

Census of the Population of the Town of Calcutta, 1876.

THE Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta having, with the sanction of Government, decided upon taking a fresh Census of the Town, the Chairman invites the hearty co-operation of the inhabitants in this important undertaking.

The Census will be taken on the night of the 6th April 1876.

The Enumerators will first make lists of the houses in their respective blocks, and for this purpose they are authorised to ascertain the names of the occupier and owner of each house.

A few days before the 6th April they will go round their blocks, and fill up the House-holdess' Schedule for every family the head of which is unable to write English or Bengalee.

If a house-holder can write English or Bengalee, and wishes to fill up his own Schedule, he can do so, and the Enumerator will supply him with the requisite forms for the purpose.

On the night of the 6th April the Enumerators will go round again to each house, and correct their Returns, striking out the names of any persons who may be absent from the Town on that night, and adding the names of any other, who may have come to the Town since the date of filling up the Return. Full instructions for filling up the Schedule are given in Form itself. The names of women need not be mentioned.

All expenses connected with the Census are defrayed by the Justices, and no Enumerator is authorised to demand any fee from any person on *this* account. The Enumerators have been selected from among the residents of that part of the Town where they will be employed in taking the Census, and they have been strictly enjoined to conduct themselves with civility and forbearance towards every one.

To prevent imposition, moreover, each Enumerator has been furnished with a Printed Letter of appointment

Any complaint as to the conduct of an Enumerator should be addressed to the Secretary to the Justices.

Persons omitting to give the information required by Law are liable to a fine of One Hundred Rupees.

R. TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Justices of the Peace.

27th March, 1876.

A Special Meeting of the Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 5th April 1876, *at* 11 *o'Clock* A. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD

1. Report by Health Officer on system now in force for Registration of Deaths.

2. Memorandum by Health Officer on statistical returns, and submitting comparative statement of births and deaths during the months of February 1875 and February 1876.

3. Letter from Government, enquiring how the Justices propose that the allowance of Mr. Lambert, Deputy Commissioner of Police, should be met during the period of his recent privilege leave, and Resolution thereon by General Committee.

4. Question of payment by the Municipality of commission charged by the Bank of Bengal for realizing interest on Securities lodged for safe custody in Contractor's deposit, and Resolution thereon by General Committee.

5. Application by Executive Engineer, 1st Calcutta Division, to connect with the Municipal main drain the three houses belonging to Government on the Balliaghatta Road, and Resolution thereon by General Committee.

6. Resolution by General Committee, recommending the expenditure of Rs. 247-5-6 for repairing Out-offices at Town Hall leased to Government.

7. Resolution by General Committee, recommending the purchase of 3,000 feet of 6-inch stone-ware drain pipes.

8. Application by Vice-Chairman, Suburban Municipality, for payment of fees realized for slaughtering animals at the Justices' Slaughter House, and Resolution thereon by General Committee.

9. Letter from Secretary regarding increased assessment on Sailor's Home, and Resolution thereon by General Committee.

10. Letter from Honorary Secretary regarding assessment on Dalhousie Institute, and Resolution thereon by General Committee.

11. Resolution by General Committee respecting supply of coal for the current year.

12. Resolution by General Committee, recommending the construction of Foot-paths in Strand Road between Mint and Nimtollah Ghat Streets, at a cost of Rs. 6,077-8-0.

13. Resolution by General Committee, recommending the expenditure of Rs. 702-10 0 for a 9-inch relief pipe in Strand Road from the sewer to the River south of Clive Ghat Street.

14. Resolution by General Committee, recommending that, a supply of filtered water be given from the Municipal hydrant for the men of His Excellency the Viceroy's Body Guard.

15. Resolution by General Committee, recommending that drainage pipes to the value of one lakh be ordered out from England.

16. Resolution by General Committee, recommending that the water-pipe in Old Hattee Bagan Street be taken up and that water pipes be laid down in Grey Street, at a cost of Rs. 4,000.

17. Resolution by General Committee, recommending the draining of Taretta Bazar Street and Harringbaree Lane, at an estimated Cost of Rs. 6,013-0-10.

18. Resolution by General Committee, recommending payment of bill amounting to Rs. 1,321 for construction of Road, under orders of the Justices over open drains round the bustee east of North Gowkhanah.

19. Resolution passed by General Committee, recommending the expenditure of Rs. 23,897-3 for sewering certain streets in area M1.

20. Recommendation by General Committee, as to the appointment of a successor to the late Mr. Taylor, Superintendent South Gowkhanah.

21. Resolution by General Committee, recommending the expenditure of Rs. 215-8-6 for sanitary arrangements, on account of outbreak of cholera at Goa Bagan.

22. Resolution by General Committee, for leasing square mile at Salt Water Lake.

23. Recommendation by General Committee, that the services of Mr. Young, Engineer in charge of Wellington Square Pumping Station, be dispensed with, as he is altogether unfit for further active duties, and that a compassionate grant of Rs. 1,000 be paid to him.

24. Recommendation of General Committee that a competent Mechanic be obtained from England to succeed Mr. Young.

25. The Proceedings of Meetings of the General Committee, held on 25th and 30th March, will also be submitted for confirmation.

26. To report that the following pictures have been presented to the Calcutta Municipality for the purpose of being hung up at the Town Hall :—

1. Installation of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, as a G. C. S. I. presented by the Committee.

2. Portrait of the late Rajah Kali Krishna, Bahadoor, presented by his son, Rajah Harendra Krishna, Bahadoor.

3. Portrait of the late Baboo Hurro Chunder Ghose, Rai Bahadoor, Judge of the Small Cause Court, presented by the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Honorary Secretary to the Hurro Chunder Ghose Memorial Committee.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Justices.

1st *April* 1876.

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The above are all fitted with EXTRA LARGE FIRE BOXES, so that any description of Fuel may be used in getting and keeping up Steam, and each Engine has an extra driving Pulley Wheel.

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The Honorable J. R. Bullen Smith, C.S I.,

Sheriff of Calcutta.

SIR,—We, the undersigned Residents of Calcutta, request that you will be so kind as to call a Public Meeting, to be held on an early date, to be fixed by yourself, in the Town Hall, for the purpose of considering a proposal to erect, by public subscription, a fitting Memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General Lord Northbrook, who is about to retire soon.

We remain

Your's very faithfully

R. Temple.
Richard Garth.
Arthur Hobhouse.
W. Muir.
John Inglis.
Romanauth Tagore.
Jotendro Mohun Tagore.
Raja Harendra Krishna. Bahadur.
Degumber Mitter.
Rajendro Mullick.
Hera Lall Seal.
Rajendra Narayan Deb.
Rajendra Lala Mittra.
Dijender Nath Tagore.
Goonendro Nath Tagore.
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Poorno Chunder Singh.
Kanty Chunder Singh.
Indur Chunder Singh.
Janokee Nath Roy.

* * *

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Khoda Bukhsh
Fuzli Ali

In compliance with the foregoing requisition, I do hereby convene a Public Meeting of the inhabitants of Calcutta, and elsewhere, to be held in the Town Hall, on Saturday, the 8th April next, at 4 o'clock P.M,

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, The 16th March, 1876. J. R. BULLEN SMITH, *Sheriff.*

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C. N. of *Nattore.*

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Hon'ble Raja Romanath Tagore Bahadur, C. S. I.....	1000
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Hon'ble Kristodas Pal.....	200
Baboo Luckhy Narain Bose, Assistant Surgeon.....	100
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Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No. 108, BARANUSY GHOSE'S STREET, CALCUTTA.